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**Dim prospects for
new cabinet**

**Who is afraid
of independence?**

Economic Survey

**The F.27: an
extraordinary plane**

**The industry that
sells security**

**Dutch aid more
development
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**Laundering oil for
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**Union leader Ong A Kwie:
Antilles cannot afford luxury of class struggle**

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FROM THE PUBLISHER

With apologies for the slight but inevitable delay of this issue's publication we wish on completion of the second volume to express our appreciation

to our subscribers and advertizers for their continuous support.

FROM THE EDITOR

This issue marks the completion of AR's second volume. It was written during weeks in which the country's mood slowly turned gloomy. Not without reason. Hope that the promise of constructive government might soon materialize was overtaken by doubt. Awareness of the costly implications of Aruba's imminent secession has dawned on everyone's mind. One consequence: thousands of civil servants will lose their jobs.

The ongoing negotiations about the tax treaty with the USA are rumoured to move to a conclusion unfavourable to the Antilles' off shore business. If so, again thousands will become jobless. The effects of the world recession are increasingly felt. Trade and tourism are slowing down.

But maybe even more worrisome is the lack of proper attention given to these developments. Instead the public is asked to debate the introduction of papiamento in the schools. A sympathetic issue but a luxury the country cannot at this time permit itself to spend so much time and energy on. As the country cannot permit itself to be led into believing that foreign investors should be viewed with suspicion.

Time has come to realistically determine priorities and act with enterprising decisiveness. AR sincerely hopes that it may report such a change of mind in its third volume.

CONTENTS

NATIONAL

Dim prospects for
Martina Cabinet 5

ARUBA

Playa Linda Resort 11
Who is afraid of
Independence? 13

BONAIRE

Dutch interest in Hotel Bonaire 15

CURAÇAO

New course for trade unions 17

WINDWARD ISLANDS

Media have much potential 19

FINANCE

Economic survey 21

SPECIAL FEATURE

F.27 extraordinary plane 24

LIVING

Selling security 29

LAW

Security services 31

HEALTH

Code of medical ethics II 33

TOURISM

Florida Epcot 37

PEOPLE

39

COMMUNITY

Dutch aid 41
Cede Antiyas 43

SHIPPING

Laundering oil for
South Africa? 45

BIBLIOGRAPHY 46

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DIM PROSPECTS FOR MARTINA CABINET III

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Leo Chance



Rudi Ellis



Mito Croes

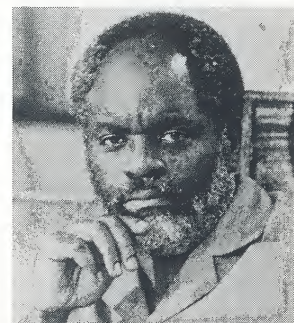


Magda Croes

On the first of November the formation of a new cabinet was officially announced. But the usual euphoria marking such occasions was significantly absent. Not only did the country witness two cabinet breakdowns within 14 months, but since the general elections in June last it took over four months to arrive at the establishment of a new co-alition government. During those months hopes were initially raised high. By October it looked as if the Antilles for the first time in its history was going to be led by a truly national cabinet, in which all parties and islands would be represented and which would make a real effort to tackle the serious problems facing the country rather than occupy itself with petty political infighting. But then suddenly the fabric patiently woven together by informateur Jules Eidsen began to fall apart. Party politics again reigned supreme. When Mr. Eidsen, who deserved better after four months of patient negotiating, presented the Governor of the Antilles with the result of his findings, a national cabinet in the true sense of the word no longer belonged to the possibilities. Aruba's MEP and Curaçao's D.P. at the last moment announced their unwillingness to join. The remaining parties, which can count on 14 out of the 22 seats in parliament, however, did agree to continue their co-operation and an 'almost' national cabinet was formed. But to the dismay of many the team presented on that first of November did not reflect the earlier avowed intention to make a serious effort at constructive government. Too many individually right people were not in the right places. The up-coming island elections (March '83), moreover, were clearly already casting a shadow over the coalition. Consequently few expect the Antilles' latest cabinet to survive for long. No reason then for euphoria.

Philosophy.

Less so when it is remembered in what mood the islands prepared themselves for the June elections. In Curaçao it was generally hoped that the outcome would lead to the formation of a strong and decisive government. All parties realized that the economic, social and constitutional problems facing the country were of such a serious nature that a fresh approach with a stress on competence



Don Martina



Jules Eidsen



Jacques Veeris



Marco de Castro



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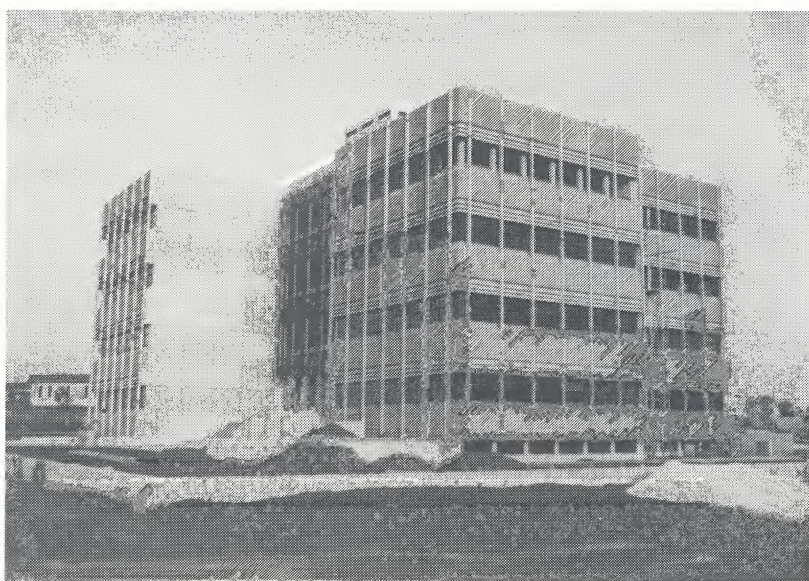
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was needed. The campaign slogans used by the three major parties are in this respect revealing: Ban crea trabou, Korsow Uni Bo Mes and Victoria Total).

On Aruba the issue of the future political status of the island and which party would lead the island toward the desired 'status aparte' constituted the main election theme. Also here it was realized that a period of profound changes was announcing itself.

No less aware of the importance of these particular elections were Bonaire and the three windward islands, St. Maarten, St. Eustatius and Saba. All four after all depend heavily on the assistance of the national government.

When the votes were counted it appeared that nothing much had changed.

The electorate had chosen to send back to parliament the same men and women, implying that they should bury their squabbles of a party political nature and concentrate all efforts on serving the general interest.

Passangrahan

Great credit must be given to Mr. Jules Eisden, who invited by the Governor of the Antilles to explore the possibilities of a

broadly based cabinet, managed to merge the afore mentioned campaign intentions into a political philosophy. Party leaders all over the Antilles meeting at the Passangrahan hotel in Curaçao agreed to set aside party and personal interests, and join forces with the view to the task ahead. For the first time in the political history of the Antilles it was agreed to co-operate on an above party level.


So promising was the Passangrahan agreement that the Curaçao parties decided to apply the same principle to their island government, inviting opposition party PNP to join the executive.

The first dissonant, initially hardly noticed, was the evasive behaviour of Mr. Betico Croes, leader of Aruba's major party MEP. Now that the hour of the truth had arrived — all parties from all islands agreed to co-operate in helping Aruba obtain the desired status aparte — Mr. Croes wriggled in all directions to avoid having to commit himself to any jointly agreed programme. When such an agreement was eventually signed by all parties in St. Maarten including the MEP, Mr. Croes immediately expressed some reservations.

Break-up

The actual breaking up of the newly found unity was caused by an issue which in the light of the accepted philosophy must be rated of secondary importance. When it came to discussing ministerial appointments the Democratic Party of Curaçao announced that it considered a possible candidacy of Mr. Marco de Castro of the MAN unacceptable.

Mr. de Castro who held the post of Minister of Finance in the former cabinet was given a vote of no confidence by parliament last June in connection with the Queen of Saba affair (see AR.



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vol 1, no 4). It should be realized that no such candidacy has as yet been forwarded by the MAN.

Petty politics was back again. The politicians returned to what they are best at: bickering.

In principle the Democratic Party was right. The immediate return of Mr. de Castro in the next cabinet would seem to violate the unwritten laws of parliamentary tradition in particular as the constellation of parliament had hardly changed. But the timing of the D.P.'s objection and the manner in which it was voiced (through the daily press) was completely wrong. At this stage of the negotiations a problem of this nature if it had indeed arisen should have been solved at the conference table.

Flimsey

MAN's reaction did not help much either. Letting feelings of machismo get the better of itself — the D.P. is not going to tell us what we can or cannot do — the party reacted in such a man-

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Passangrahan

ner that a historically unique experiment was now doomed to fail. MAN, which had intended to forward the names of Mr. Don Martina and Mr. Jules Eisdén as candidates for the new cabinet, immediately announced by way of political counter-move the candidacy of Mr. de Castro. The arguments used were flimsy to say the least.

First of all MAN declared that its position with regard to the candidacy was unnegotiable because the electorate had expressed its confidence in Mr. de Castro. But in the Antilles the people usually vote for the number one on the party list, which in the case of MAN was Mr. Don Martina. Mr. de Castro certainly did not attract an impressive number of

votes for the party.

The argument that the individual parties have a right to choose their own candidates for cabinet-posts carries more weight but in this case, if not always, there should be left room for discussion. The idea of a national cabinet ought not at this moment in the history of the Antilles have been sacrificed for matters of prestige.

Aparte

After the D.P. had broken ranks Mr. Betico Croes saw his chance. The MEP demanded that the ministry of Finance should be headed by one of its candidates. For obvious reasons. Having command of that important portfolio the Arubans would have a definite edge on the Curaçolones when working out a settlement in connection with the soon to be realized status aparte of Aruba. Again the intentions of Passangrahan were forgotten. No doubt, much to be pleasure of Mr. Croes who once more could avoid being tied to a position in which he would have to proof the attainability of Aruban independence. Also the MEP broke ranks.

This move of the MEP becomes even more understandable in the light of the coming March elections. The party has recently experienced a decline in popularity. Maneuvring itself into the position of the underdog may well pay off handsomely.

Disappointing

As a result what every Antillean had hoped for was not achieved. Months of negotiations led by the tireless and competent Jules Eisdén did in the end not lead to the formation of a truly national cabinet geared to tackle the

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nation's problems at the required level.

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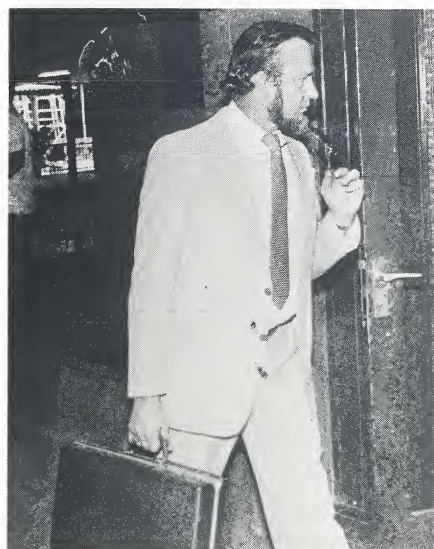
prevail over party interests. But once more several candidates were presented not because of their proven suitability for the particular position but because of their standing in the party.

Consequently the new cabinet appears at first sight to lack the thrust demanded by the present situation. Mr. Don Martina is again at the helm but the question is whether there is any ship attached to it.

Most observers rate the chances that the cabinet will survive for long small. The two coalition partners from Aruba (AVP and PPA) will suffer increasing pressure from the MEP in Aruba itself. Election considerations may well force them to leave the national government before long. In particular as the Aruba issue will continue to dominate the po-

litical scene even more than in the past now that a decisive round table conference is close at hand. ■

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Betico Croes: leaving



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Playa Linda Resort nearing completion

If success with regard to attracting tourism depends on offering a first class product, Aruba may look ahead with confidence. Having built up an excellent reputation on the international market during the past years and as a result reaped their reward in welcoming ever increasing numbers of visitors, the island authorities and the Aruba Tourism and Hotel Association continue to work the market aggressively and better their product. The almost completed construction of a new time sharing project will, no doubt, contribute to the effort of keeping Aruba abreast of its competitors. With a view to the far from optimistic forecasts concerning tourism in the Caribbean next year the addition of a new resort promoting repeat visits is most welcome.

Aruba has been gifted with that rare combination of continual sunshine, beautiful beaches and a friendly people. But more is needed to ensure success for the tourism industry. Professionalism and initiative are indispensable ingredients. In both aspects Aruba scores high. Meeting the man behind the island's latest project, the Playa Linda Resort, this is amply proven. A native of Aruba,

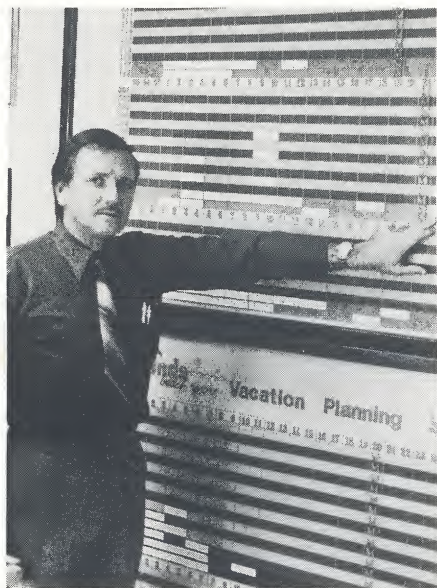
Raymond Maduro (37) impresses the visitor as highly competent and resourceful. Maduro, who started his career in the construction business, realized as early as 1973 that time-sharing, a concept then still in its infancy, might contribute considerably to his island's future in tourism. Together with a group of young and dynamic Arubans he began researching the possibilities for setting up a pro-

ject along those lines on Aruba. In April 1977 the Aruba Beach Club opened its doors. Success was immediate and lasting. So much so that construction of a second project, the Playa Linda Resort, was started in June 1981.

Mr. Maduro, who is president of both undertakings, explains the concept with the help of a neatly prepared package of leaflets and charts.

Both projects are structured as a club membership time sharing arrangement. Members buy their vacation home for a limited period per annum (minimum two weeks) which then is available to them during 30 successive years. They receive accommodation in the same unit and numbered week each year. An annual "per diem" charge is paid, which reflects the pro rata share of club management and operating expenses, a fee that varies with the size of the unit and the time period owned. In the case of Playa Linda maintenance fees will initially range from \$150 to \$300 per week. End loans will be financed by the developer, with a minimum down payment of 30% and a





Ray Maduro

finance period of 5 years. Trusts and a form of title insurance are utilized to ensure purchaser protection.

Members may not rent or sublease their units but can opt to partake in a worldwide exchange programme with other time sharing organizations.

This attractive possibility of trading vacation homes indicates how popular the concept of time sharing has become.

Located four miles from Oranjestad's airport and situated on more than 5 acres, Playa Linda will offer 66 one-bedroom and 12 two-bedroom suites. The rooms have been carefully designed to suit the idea of time sharing. "This is not a hotel" comments Ray Maduro. "What we endeavor to offer is a vacation home, which implies creating the corresponding facilities". Looking over the show unit, it soon becomes obvious that every detail has been carefully checked with a view to comfort, privacy and practicality. The cozy furnished sitting room is equipped with both a color television and stereo set.

The multi-structured six story building will when the last stage is completed have a U-shape, much like the Aruba Beach Club. The applied principle of elevation ensures the members of a

beautiful view without the chance of being observed by curious outsiders. Each unit has its private terrace or balcony.

Reflecting the "full boat" approach to amenities and services to which Maduro and his associates are committed, Playa Linda will include sailing rentals, an outdoor swimming pool, fishing, scuba and snorkeling, and a wide range of similar water sports; security guards, commercial shops, a grocery store (each unit is equipped with the most modern kitchen facilities), restaurant and bar, clubhouse and playgrounds, auto rentals and laundry services. The island itself adds to that a most varied choice of entertainment and gourmet.

Maduro is clearly committed to the idea of time-sharing. He is a member of the Resort Timesharing Council of the American Land Development Association and was a guestspeaker at Expo '81-Niagara, last year's major industry event, sponsored by Interval International, Florida International University, and the Time Sharing Institute.

His personal care for the smallest detail of his projects, managerial

ability and openness to professional advice explain the success of the companies he leads. But, as he told Time Sharing Industry Review: "I believe that a man's success is a journey, not a destination. You can never achieve total success by yourself. I owe a lot of mine to teamwork and the effort of my associates, friends and family".

Walking around the building site he draws his visitor aside to show him one of his pet projects: a nursery housing the loveliest of blooms, bushes and young palm trees. In due time they will turn the 5 acres of land surrounding the main buildings into an exquisite tropical garden. There seems little doubt that Maduro will succeed in keeping the members of his clubs happy, as well as the shareholders of his development company. He is proud to announce that 50% of the needed capital (total investment amounts to US\$ 13 million) has come from local sources. Aruba in its turn has every reason to be proud of Maduro, who sincerely believes that "it's important to be productive and to contribute to one's community". ■



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Who is afraid of independence?

Chamber of Commerce meets Dutch minister of Antillean Affairs



"It would be a misconception to think that Aruba assumes to be able to achieve on its own what the islands together consider unattainable: total independence. Aruba desires a limited independence and in due time the replacement of the current constitutional ties with Holland by some kind of commonwealth relationship, and with the other islands an institutionalized form of co-operation instead of the present constellation".

Thus reads a letter by the Aruban Chamber of Commerce dated August 19, 1982 to Mr. Jan de Koning, Dutch minister of Antillean Affairs. The letter was delivered on the 18th to convey to de Koning the Chamber's ideas about the future status of Aruba before meeting him on the 19th.

Dates with regard to the independence question appear to be a constant source of confusion in Aruba just like the interpretation of the concept itself. Few if any have during the past years been able to fathom what Mr. Betico Croes, Aruba's leading politician, exactly envisages when clamouring for "independencia".

The Chamber knows at least what it does not want. It does not favour Aruba to be part of an independent federation consisting of the six islands which now make up the Netherlands Antilles. Nor does it want full independence for Aruba by itself. A lasting tie with

Holland, they write, is considered indispensable in order to guarantee territorial integrity, legal security and socio-economic viability.

From the letter and the following discussion with Mr. de Koning it appears that the Aruban business community learned with great apprehension about the attitude a number of neighbouring countries are taking with regard to the Aruban question. From an official Dutch report it has become clear that these nations will only recognize Aruba's political status after full independence. The island's businessmen are shrewd enough to realize that such recognition does not pay in hard cash, at least not enough to maintain the present economic level. The Chamber bluntly states that legal security and optimal economic development are of greater importance to the island than recognition of a political status by other nations. A sly dig at Mr. Betico Croes. An admission also of fear that the latter's rhetoric may lead to undesired results.

The strong plea, put forward in the letter, to grant Aruba the position of "partner" in the Kingdom – a position the Antilles as a whole hold at the moment – must be read as an effort to secure an interim relationship with Holland, which need not necessarily be a first step to full independence.

The Chamber moreover points out at length that Aruba will need

ample time to prepare itself for the envisaged limited independence and suggests that no time limit be prescribed for the interim phase. Aruba, they contend, should at least be allowed to postpone the final step till the moment that Curaçao is ready to do the same. The clinch is that the latter island is not expected to move in that direction for a long time to come, if ever.

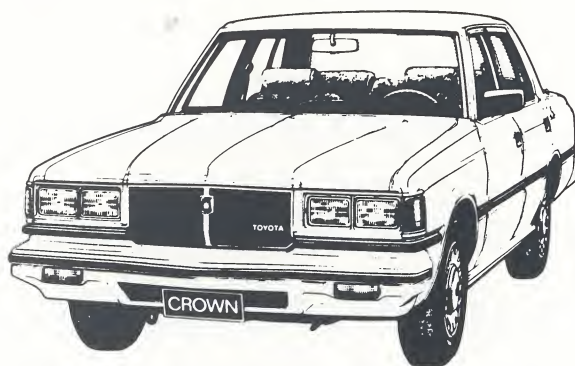
Mr. de Koning answered in a decidedly non-committal manner. He assured the Chamber of Holland's understanding of the vulnerable position of the islands and their desire to maintain ties with The Netherlands in the future. But the nature of such ties must first be agreed upon by the Antilles, implying that this is not a matter which regards only Aruba. Likewise he stressed the responsibility of Aruba (and Curaçao) for the four smaller islands, thereby indicating that an institutionalized form of co-operation between Aruba and the other five islands will have to be a two-way affair.

Mr. de Koning, who in private expressed his amazement at not having met one single Aruban who really wishes independence, clearly tried to step carefully. This may have reassured Aruba's businessmen, whose priorities are obviously not identical with those of Aruba's politicians. ■

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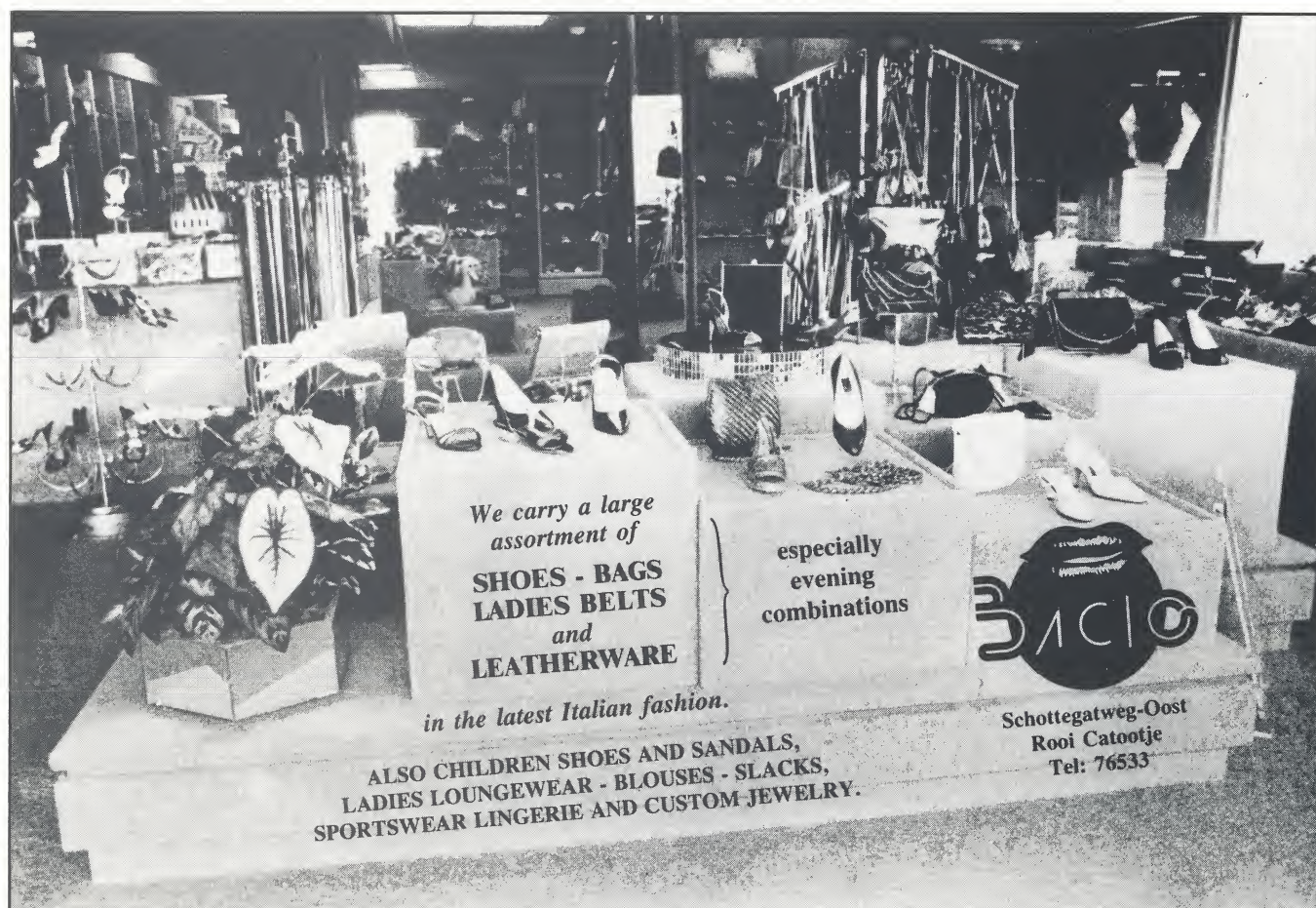
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Golden Tulip organization shows interest in Hotel Bonaire

According to a recent report of the Caribbean Tourism Research and Development Centre prospects for the tourism industry in the Caribbean for 1983 look far from bright. Curaçao, which witnessed a decline of 17.9% in visitors during the first 8 months of the current year is not expected to do much better in the new season. Even Aruba, still one of the most popular vacation spots in the region, has seen a slight decline in recent months. This development does not hold much promise for Bonaire, which depends to a certain extent on the two larger neighbouring islands for its supply of visitors.

Surprising and hope-giving is therefore the interest recently shown by the well-known Golden Tulip organization to take over the management of Hotel Bonaire, one of the two larger hotels on the Flamingo island.

Worldwide

Golden Tulip is a Dutch based hotel organization with a worldwide chain of 300 hotels in 60 countries. Recently 14 major hotels in Germany joined the

chain, while in October last Golden Tulip Hotels America Inc. was established, which is expected to add another 60 to 100 hotels in the USA and Caribbean to the organization. Golden Tulip, moreover, has a special division operating hotels in The Netherlands (4), Mallorca (1) and Africa (2). Construction of Golden Tulip projects is underway in Vancouver, Nigeria and Sweden.

Antilles

Mr. G. Spitz, managing director of Golden Tulip Hotels, told AR of a heightened interest of his organization in the Netherlands Antilles. It already maintains a long standing relationship with Hotel Las Palmas in Curaçao. Early November the organization will host a meeting of German investors interested in the Paradise Village project in Curaçao (see AR vol. 1, no. 5) at its headquarters in Hilversum, Holland. Expectations are that the meeting may give new impetus to the project, which in turn may give a much needed boost to Curaçao's lagging tourism industry. Mr. Spitz also indicated that the existing co-operation with the Aruban

hotels of Mr. Ike Cohen, Manchebo Beach and Talk of the Town, will be intensified in the near future. A proposal for the renovation of the Aruba Caribbean Hotel is being drawn up by Golden Tulip's staff and may soon be forwarded to Aruba's island government.

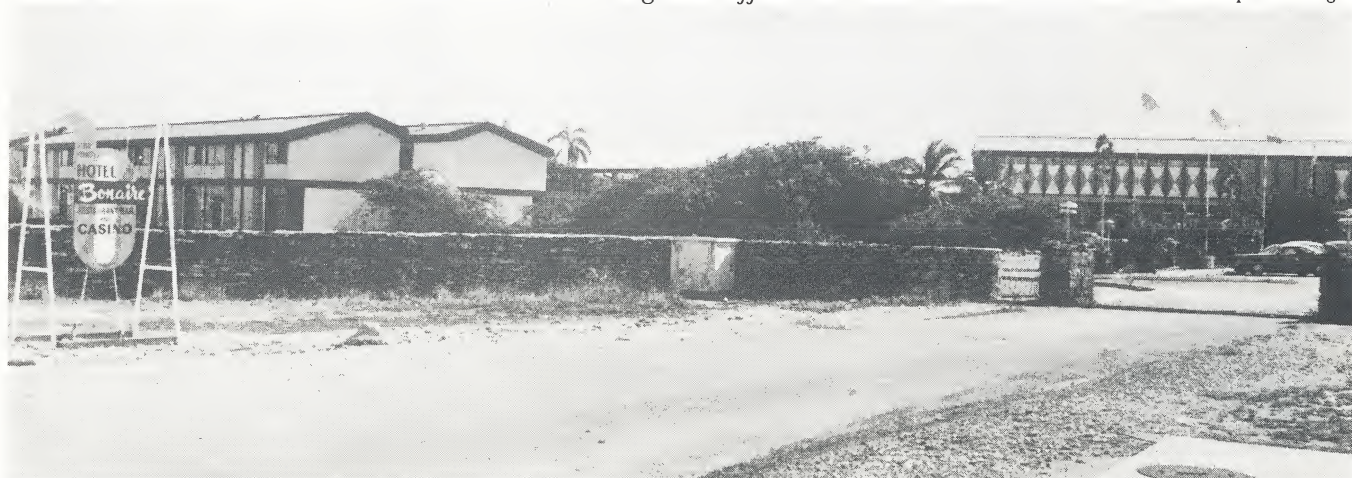
Bonaire

The management of Golden Tulip Hotels, which co-operates closely with Holland's national carrier K.L.M., is of the opinion that its intimate knowledge of the Antilles, makes it particularly suited to take charge of hotel management on the islands. For that reason, Mr. Spitz said, it took the initiative to approach the owners of Hotel Bonaire, Bonantil N.V. with the offer of taking charge of the hotel's management. The proposal, recently done, contains a special accent on the training of personnel. If Bonantil accepts, Golden Tulip plans to fly over members of the hotel's staff in turn for training. Golden Tulip runs its own training programmes to upgrade the service rendering in its hotels.

No news was as yet available whether Bonantil N.V. will take up Golden Tulip's offer. But the fact that this renowned organization shows interest in the hotel, which in spite of a renovation programme experienced difficult times during recent years, can be considered hopeful sign for the tourism industry on the Flamingo island. ■

Management offer.

photo Amigoe





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Charting a new course for trade unions

an interview

On the nature of trade-unionism: "we have moved from the era of street fighting to negotiating at the conference table. That implies an urgent need for professionalizing. The days that a trade-union leader could handle everything by himself are over. Banging the employer's table with a clenched fist, that is past. Our first priority is training and reorganization. What we should do is get ourselves the assistance of a braintrust consisting of technocrats. I'm thinking of an economist, a financial expert and a legal adviser. Of course our local trade-unions do not have the means for such an undertaking. I'm counting on some idealism. Unfortunately the trade-unions have not generated much of that type of know-how. And maybe we have failed in not approaching the experts. Some fear that inviting intellectually trained men into the movement will soon lead to their taking over policy-making. I do not share that fear. A trade-union leader should know his limitations. He needs proper advice, but should keep policy-making as his particular prerogative.

On the relationship to the organization of employers: not bad. But what the unions should watch carefully is the rise of the new breed of employers. With the older generation there was a measure of understanding and personal care. Together we achieved a lot. But the younger breed of employers approach matters almost exclusively from a management point of view. The personal element has disappeared. The trade-unions will have to adapt themselves to that situation. That is why I said we need the assistance of technocrats.

On the younger generation in the movement: also here we see the rise of a new breed. We, the older ones, learned it the hard way. The younger generation is not getting that chance. And that is a good thing, but it does stress the need for training. We were taught the ins and outs of trade-unionism in the school of life, by direct experience. They will have to be reared in a different way. And that much needed training will have to be carefully structured. Incidental seminars are not enough. Nor am I happy with the proposal to set up courses at the university. I am afraid that is too far from our younger members' bed. This chal-



lenge should be tackled from within the union. And, by the way, this accent on expertise and training though agreed upon by most of my colleagues, will have some painful consequences. Many of the older generation will begin to feel side-stepped. Sad but inevitable.

On the government's policy with regard to new investment: far too much red tape to begin with. We should

On occasion of his recent election as chairman of the Curaçao Workers Federation Mr. E. Ong A Kwie shared some thoughts with AR on trade-unionism and the challenges it faces.

Mr. Ong A Kwie, who started his union career as a boy of twelve collecting money in support of a strike at Biliton, Suriname, is of the opinion that the trade-unions on Curaçao, should embark on a process of professionalizing. A different kind of society has come into being with a new breed of employers, he says. The trade-unions should face the implied challenge and adapt themselves. "Training" and "expertise" are the words he uses most frequently.

welcome investors from abroad, but in fact they are scared away. Far too many good and employment creating projects have gone down the drain due to petty political motives, because protecting established interests is deemed more important than the common good, and maybe most of all because of incompetence causing endless delays of official decisions with regard to permits etc.

I only need to mention Eisen und Metal, Paradise Village and Medicopharma!

On unionism and politics: our field of action should be as broad as possible. A trade-union should never limit itself to procuring labour-agreements. After all the decisions determining the future of our society are taken by the politicians. The trade-unions should try to influence that process in a way most favourable to the working-class and society as a whole. All we have are votes. We should never embark on establishing our own party or linking up with an existing one. On the contrary, the unions should try to be as objective as possible. I must admit: here we have a problem. Unfortunately personal likes and dislikes are too often getting the upperhand and the issue itself is lost sight of. This is one of the most serious diseases of our island society.

On ideology: I have never believed in the need for an ideological basis in trade-union work. For me the only important issue has always been to defend the rights of the

workers. But I am slowly changing my mind. There is increasing pressure in our community in this respect. That corresponds with developments abroad. More so, foreign ideologies are getting a foothold in our society through internationally organized training courses. That is one of the reasons why I believe in setting up training courses on the spot.

As I said our society is slowly being ideologized. But let me put it like this: the trade unions are not by definition anti-capitalist. Labourers and employers need not conduct a continuous warfare.

The era of class struggle is past both internationally and here, locally. To my mind — I know that I differ from some other union leaders in this respect — we can no longer permit ourselves the luxury of that concept.

On Curaçao: our society has some peculiar aspects. On the one hand we have an open economy and

free enterprise. On the other hand most of our politicians and entrepreneurs are quite conservative in their outlook. Change is easily thought to be risky and leading to decline. My way of thinking is different. I believe that changes and good leadership can bring improvement. From a critical perspective: After the 30th of May, 1969 the trade-unions as a movement have definitely obtained recognition. But on the whole they have failed. First of all we have not managed to create new cadre. In this respect we have to do some catching up. Both the government and the organization of employers are willing to help. On that score we have some excellent experiences!

Secondly much has been achieved in the past with regard to the primary labour conditions, but very little has been done about the secondary ones. I realize that action in this respect demands strong and convincing leadership.

But most important of all: we all fail in that our attention is focused exclusively on those who are working. There is a lot of talk about the unemployment problem but all our efforts are directed at improving the income of those who have work. It should be realised that the contradistinction between 'the haves' and 'the have nots' is not the same as between employer and worker. The distinction line can be drawn right through the labour class itself. Not the workers will revolt but the unemployed surely will!

Likewise we are forgetting that our society will be faced with an old-people's problem within ten to twenty years.

I believe it is time to define our priorities and begin making the necessary sacrifices for the sake of those groups who have no future to look forward to. ■

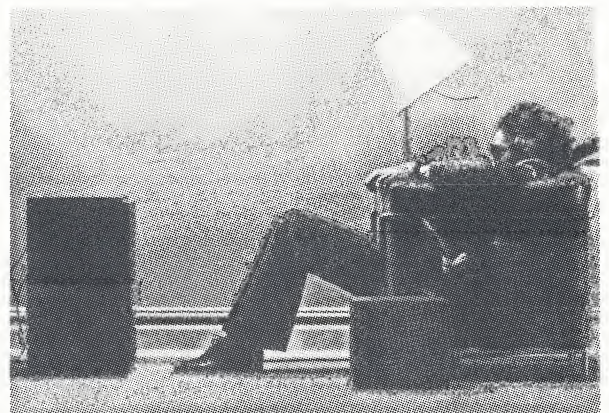
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St. Maarten Media: Much potential, Slow change

by Jenny Hess

While enjoying a rare night off last July from several island jobs, St. Maarten newspaper photographer George Frederick entertained a group of friends at a Philipsburg discotheque.

But the gaiety of the atmosphere subsided briefly when more than ten island policemen charged through the nightclub's front door, ordering customers and employees to remain inside so they could be searched for drugs and weapons. Somehow, Fredrick slipped outside to his rented Toyota, grabbed a camera, film and flash and headed back to the confused French, Dutch, Antillean and American crowd. He knew his photographs of police officers frisking customers would sell quickly to at least three local newspapers.

Such is the enterprise of a number of St. Maarten journalists — especially those who eagerly worked for a month this past summer with five University of Florida graduate-level communications students sponsored by the Curaçao based Stichting Grafische Communicatie (Foundation Graphic Media). The five students comprised the second entourage of Florida students whisked off to St. Maarten to lend technical assistance to interested island media.

Supported by private and public funding — mostly in The Netherlands — the group was to pick up where four other students left off last year in assisting the solid growth of the St. Maarten news media. (See AR 2,5)

Question Mark

The striking absence of a daily dose of the New York Times, Miami Herald and Cable Network News leaves a noticeable void in the lives of the typical "news hound". But the challenge of teaching people eager to improve their local news publications and broadcasts prompted the three women and two men to relish the task that awaited them on the "Friendly Island".

In their drive to improve news content, style, advertising and circulation, the students hurdled some roadblocks, while stumbling over others.

One journalistic practice on the island often contradicted the next. The same editor who espoused one political party in his newspaper criticized the press in general for being too political. The same reporter who delighted in being the first with the "scoop" of breaking a news event often acted the traitor to his own publication, rushing off to the remaining newspapers, radio and television station to make a

quick, if meager, dollar.

The result — a huge question-mark about the actual function of the media on the island of St. Maarten.

Hodgepodge

As observed by Frank Yacenda, a member of last year's team for the Stichting's St. Maarten project, freedom of expression is not as oppressed here as in other Third World countries.

But many island journalists don't know what to do with the press freedom they have.

They shrug off attending open government meetings, opting instead to publish news releases. They consider as "gospel" police reports of some news events, failing to contact other news sources for additional facts. And they use publication deadlines as an excuse to stash unpaid advertisements in a space where a local news story could have been placed.

Who's to blame for the erra-

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tic, hodgepodge approach to journalism in St. Maarten? The finger cannot easily be pointed at any one culprit — individual or collective — because the origin and history of the population is so diverse. In addition, the influences being felt by the islanders today are many and varied.

The people themselves come from Aruba. They come from Curaçao. And from Holland. And Trinidad. The United States.

They speak Dutch, Papiamentu, English and Spanish.

The laws of the land differ strikingly from those which often coddle Western journalists. And when eager, encouraging American journalists approach them with new ideas, they recoil with the standard response:

"That's not how it's done on the Island".

The problem is apparent. Change is difficult. It matters not how enthusiastic media members are to upgrade their press. If deviation from the ordinary is involved, editors and publishers are likely to hedge.

Complaint

So they tread lightly, carefully. Observes newspaper publisher Allan S. Richardson of "The Clarion", speaking out — if warily — against local police officials' practice of stifling certain information:

"... what we do not agree with is the forever withholding of all the details in the event of violent death. We fail to see why it is important to conceal from the public the fact that Mary Jane committed suicide, or that Peter

Jones was killed as a result of 15 stab wounds and five pistol shots. "If it is because the Dutch initiated such a law in the 15th century, which we consequently adopted, then we are saying that what was possibly essential for that community in that age, is not necessarily indispensable for this community in this age".

And so the changes are subtle, while at the same time marked, for a press which has just reached a stage long passed by Western journalist. To help boost those changes came the five media specialists, who were given freedom bounded only by limitations set by the government.

Project

Under the Stichting project, the students were advised to analyze each form of news media individually, pinpointing needs and weaknesses.

Radio station PJD-2 probably was the most advanced of media forms on the island. Regularity of newscasts had improved during the past year. But the broadcasts lacked fresh material. So one student worked at training a better-equipped assignment editor and formalizing methods for reporters to use in their newsgathering.

Among the three newspapers receiving help from the students, one was a weekly and the other two were published three times each week. All three needed help with layout, news and editorial content. While one was stronger than others on commentary, another led the local race in being first with the breaking news.

Training

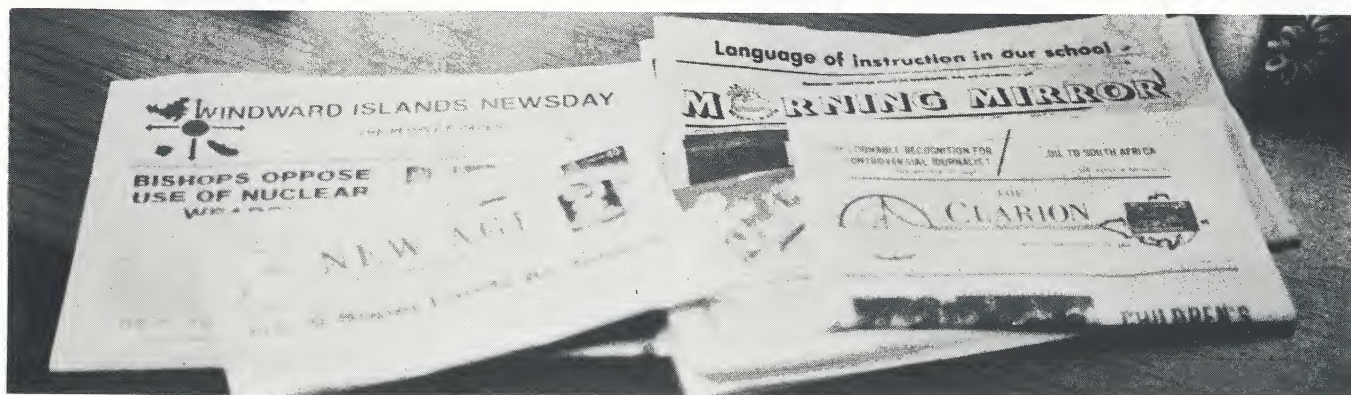
The major weakness of the island media that prevented any great achievements was a glaring lack of trained personnel. Most reporters or writers freelanced for several newspapers, and only two photographers covered assignments for three newspapers.

Although one newspaper's editor-publisher had some journalistic training in the United States, his main problem lay in trying to lead a potential employee through the steps of becoming a good reporter. He awaits a basic personnel training guide from one Stichting group member.

Journalists must be educated in the Windward Islands. An exchange program with the United States might be a good way to get started. Take the basics home and apply them — integrate them into existing news media. The potential is there. The stimulus is needed.

Five media specialists can help get the machinery in gear during four weeks' time. But the people themselves must keep the operation alive. They can do it only if support, encouragement and cooperation are offered by schools and government.

The Stichting Grafische Communicatie recognized the need to inject vital information and enthusiasm into the pulsing veins of the growing St. Maarten news media. A healthy environment will help it grow by leaps and bounds. ■





Economic survey

by H. C. Beers

The official foreign reserves with the Central Bank grew rapidly during the month of July to a level of f 366.3 million.

This growth of f 172.2 million was the result of remittances for tax payments by the oil refineries; Shell Curaçao had to transfer f 32 million and Lago Aruba f 156 million. In August the official foreign reserves fell by f 17.8 million to a level of f 348.5 million.

Although the high level of foreign reserves might be considered favourable, economic conditions are in fact worse. Unemployment is very high, while the main employment sectors are generally facing difficult times. The oil refinery of Shell Curaçao is running at a loss and Lago Aruba is processing far below its capacity.

The national airline A.L.M. is struggling with stiff competition on its Miami flights and had to abandon its route to Surinam.

Moreover the Curaçao Drydock Company requested an auxiliary arrangement from both the Antillean and the Dutch Government.

Tourism is not performing very well, especially in St. Maarten and Curaçao, while the offshore sector is still uncertain about the outcome of the negotiations with the U.S.A. about the tax agreement.

The high surplus on the balance of payments is made possible by the absence of investments. To improve the employment outlook, however, domestic investments have to be made.

The banking sector seems reluctant to increase its lending and prefers to invest abroad, where high interest rates are more attractive.

Foreign reserves

At the end of August the official foreign reserves amounted to f 348.5 million which is f 124,4 higher compared with the corresponding month of 1981.

In mid July the official foreign reserves with the Central Bank grew from f 194.1 million to f 335.6 million and continued to grow to level of f 366.3 as per the end of July.

This record high level was the result of remittances from foreign banking accounts by the domestic oil refineries to pay the annual amounts of profit taxes. Lago Aruba transferred f 156 million and Shell Curaçao f 32 million for that purpose to the Central Bank.

In addition the private banks maintain substantial amounts as foreign investments abroad. On a net basis, thus after deduction of liabilities to non-residents, these

reserves amounted to about f 80 million during the first half of 1982. At the end of July a total amount of f 68 million was outstanding. This fall in net foreign claims continued during the next month reaching a level of only f 46 towards the end of August.

Based upon these two components of foreign reserves the month of August recorded a loss of foreign exchange of about f 40 million.

The main part of this outflow was due to a switch from domestic investments to foreign investments by institutional investors.

Monetary developments

The transfers by the oil refineries in July resulted in a corresponding increase of the money supply, which amounted to f 1.215 millions at the end of June. The inflow of f 188 million meant a sudden growth of 15.5% in the money sup-

ply during one month.

That is very high compared with a rise of 15.3% in the preceding 12 months period. Such an inflow might lead to serious disturbances in the economy.

To prevent these consequences the Central Bank consulted with the Island Government of Aruba to deposit a substantial part of the Lago tax payments with the Central Bank. In an annex to its condensed balance sheet of July 16 the Central Bank stated as one of the consequences the domestic interest level which, in the Central Bank's opinion should be stabilized.

As a result the deposit of the island Governments with the Central Bank rose from f 1.3 million as per the end of June to f 137.7 million as per the end of July.

During August these deposits grew to f 141 million. The remaining part of tax transfers went to the private banks which were able to increase their balances with the Central Bank during July from f 25.4 million to f 64 million. During August these balances fell to f 43 million.

Some banks even had to borrow from the Central Bank to an amount of f 0.6 million at a lending rate of 10%.

Tourism

Taking into account the international recession tourism on Aruba is performing quite well. In August more than 25,000 foreigners visited the island resulting in high occupancy rates of the hotels. During the first half of 1982 103,592 visitors arrived who stayed 6.2 nights on an average, which is not too bad compared with 1981 when 105,698 visitors stayed 6.1

nights during the period January – June.

However, the other islands were not so fortunate.

Curaçao recorded a decrease in visitors and the hotels reported lower occupancy rates during the first half of this year compared with the corresponding period of 1981. Also St. Maarten is blaming the recession for the declining growth in tourism. Still construction of new hotels continues on that island, adding 478 rooms in the near future to the existing 2171.

However, to increase employment opportunities the tourist sector has to be upgraded and expanded. Very few investments have been made during the last years in new hotels on Curaçao. To secure regular flights the A.L.M. should improve its services. For the future development of the tourist sector it is very important not to rely too heavily on foreign airlines.

To secure cruise tourism an Antillean participation should be welcomed.

Shell Curaçao

This year Shell Curaçao will record a loss on oil refining. As a result the company has to reduce expenditures. One of the major costs concerns personnel expenditures which constitute about 40%.

A plan has been executed to lay off 250 workers through early retirement, which will reduce the number of personnel from 2600 to 2350.

To improve earnings Shell Curaçao is looking for favourable buying markets as well as a constant and profitable consuming market for its oil products. In view of this contacts have been laid with Mexico and the hope exists that next year a favourable trade arrangement may be effected.

At the moment Shell Curaçao is already processing 50,000 barrels of Mexican crude per day, which is about 20% of the current volume. Part of the Mexican oil is sold to Jamaica.

Shell Curaçao has concluded a new contract with the Venezuelan government owned oil company Maraven/PVDSA.

Since June 40.000 barrels of light and half heavy crude oil have been delivered per day.

The contract with the Colombian company Ecopetrol has been renewed for one year for the delivery of 5000 barrels automobile gasoline per day.

For the rest Shell Curaçao is facing stiff competition due to the overcapacity of refining possibilities particularly in Caribbean region and the world-wide fall in oil consumption.

Lago Aruba

Due to world-wide market conditions and the uncertain outlook in the oil industry Exxon has called on all affiliates, including Lago Aruba, to restrain capital investments. Most of Lago's major capital projects planned during the past few years have been affected by this restraint.

Those projects were estimated to cost over \$ 100 million and have been planned for execution over a period of five years, starting in 1981.

They included a number of modernization and energy conservation projects.

Upon receipt of the capital restraint notice from Exxon Lago Aruba reduced the total budget for these capital investments to about \$ 60 million over the same time period through 1985, which is

a mere \$ 12 million per year. Such amounts are very small compared with the huge profits made during the last few years and certainly inadequate to guarantee future employment in the oil refining sector of Aruba.

Apart from the capital restraint notice Lago has announced changes in other economic factors as a cause for reducing the capital investments. These other economic factors were not explained, but may refer to an unfavourable performance of the oil refinery this year.

Lago is processing oil far below its capacity and seems to be prevented from increasing this volume by the contract it has with the Venezuelan oil supplier.

At the new level of capital expenditure Lago considers it more cost-effective to assure complete responsibility for construction of these projects, utilizing local contractors directly, rather than through the foreign prime contractor. The construction will peak in 1983 at about 250 men, the majority of which will be from the local construction workforce.

Curaçao Drydock

According to the management of the Curaçao Drydock Company this enterprise is going through a very difficult period caused by the international recession and re-

CENTRAL BANK CONDENSED BALANCE SHEET; f MILLION

	31-8-82	31-7-82	30-6-82
Gold stock	41.4	41.4	41.4
Foreign reserves	348.5	366.3	194.1
Loans to:			
- fed. government	88.1	90.0	89.8
- local banks	0.6	—	1.2
- other	1.1	1.1	1.1
Sundry assets	6.3	6.7	7.9
TOTAL	486.0	505.5	335.5
liabilities and equity			
Bank notes	169.7	176.4	186.1
Deposits held by:			
- fed. tax collectors	10.3	0.8	4.5
- Island governments	141.0	137.7	1.3
- local banks	43.0	64.0	25.4
- development projects	15.3	20.7	19.8
- private sector	23.3	25.5	21.3
- non residents	0.1	0.1	0.1
Money in custody	2.1	2.1	2.1
Sundry liabilities	29.1	26.1	22.8
Capital and reserves	52.1	52.1	52.1

duced shipping traffic between Europe, U.S.A. and Latin America owing to the war between England and Argentine.

The company still has a good potential but needs financial assistance to overcome the existing problems and to maintain a good liquidity position.

The shareholders, of which the Central Government is a major one, have set up an auxiliary operation to an amount of f 27 million to cover losses till the end of this year.

The Central Government will issue a guarantee of f 12 million. This amount will be lent by the private banking system. The remaining amount of f 15 million has to be borrowed from other sources.

One of the sources might be the Dutch Government. The subject was one of topics discussed during the visit of the Dutch minister of Antillean affairs Mr. J. de Koning.

He was willing to earmark a sum of f 5 million expecting that the Central Government and the

island Government of Curaçao will do the same.

However, due to the difficult state of public finance the Antillean partners appeared unable to do so.

Because of the existing depression in ship repairing the auxiliary plan must be implemented on short notice and will have a period of a few months. In case no improvement takes place before the beginning of next year, the company may have to cut down in personnel.

In the meantime the trade union has already agreed to waive compensation for inflation, as stipulated in the labour agreement, as per July 1, 1982.

In October 1982 the next compensation for the increase in the consumer price index is due. However no decision has yet been taken.

In the meantime the Curaçao Drydock Company has put 50 apprentices on its payroll, thereby increasing the number of personnel to about 1200.

Salt industry Bonaire

Although especially at the beginning of this year the revenue of salt appeared to be below expectations, there is hope that the total salt production during 1982 will exceed 250.000 million ton.

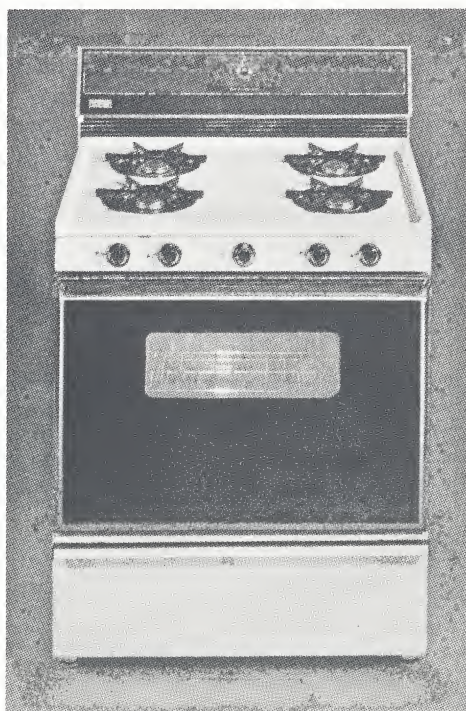
Compared with last year such a volume means an increase of 35.000 ton. At the end of July 1982 already a level of 206.000 ton was reached.

Furthermore the management of the Antilles International Salt Company approved the project to set up an affiliated packing industry to process the salt. The necessary materials and machines will be ordered in the next few months. No amount of capital expenditures were revealed but the additional employment opportunities will be welcome in the small economy of Bonaire.

Early in September one of the piers was seriously damaged, hampering the loading of Salt.

The consequences of this accident on the volume of export is not yet known. ■

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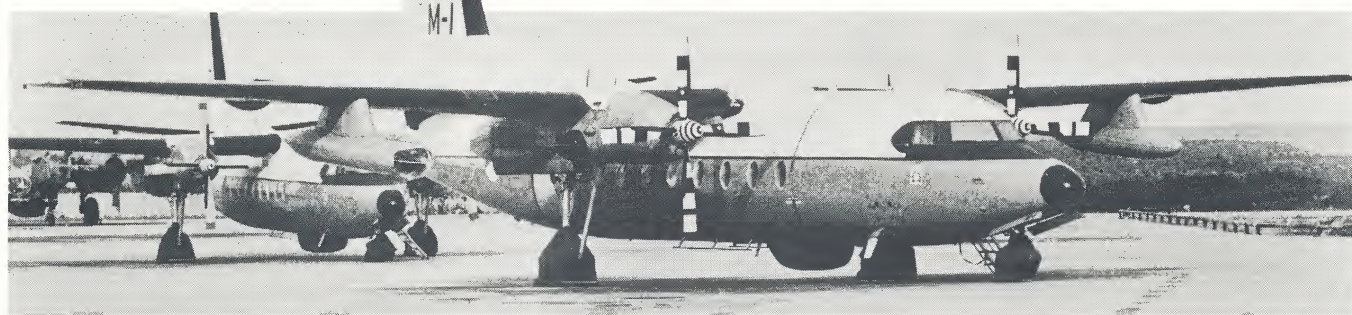
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SPECIAL FEATURE



Tranquil blue seas creaming to foam along sunny palm fringed coral beaches of a Caribbean island conjure up an idyllic scene where fair trade winds fill schooner sails along the skyline, and scuba divers plunge clear down 20 fathoms to aquatic wonderlands.

But there is another face to Paradise. The Caribbean knows the drama of greed played out against the background of ordinary decent people toiling honestly to bring up families and contribute to the common good of their communities.

It is an avarice for both monetary wealth and for political power, ingredients which mix in the Caribbean cauldron to make a heady brew.

For the Caribbean is where drug barons operate, and where the most innocent looking plane or boat can be running a hoard of packages for which dollars by the million will pass in cash.

It is where at another level, the power game is played out by East and West; between the rich nations and the hungry. Where the United States, anxious for stability in Central and South America, is concerned to preserve fu-

ture West supply lines through an area where Cuba and Grenada are allies of a Russia whose merchant shipping bristles with electronic intelligence gadgetry and disgorges sailors around the ports on goodwill missions.

Holland has possessed an interest in the Caribbean since the arrival of the Dutch West Indies Company in Curaçao in the early 1600s and today the Netherlands Antilles comprises the six islands of Aruba, Curaçao, Bonaire, St. Maarten, Saba and St. Eustatius. The Netherlands Antilles became an autonomous nation within the Kingdom of the Netherlands in 1954, and the Netherlands remains responsible for external defence and foreign affairs.

Two Fokker F27 Maritime aircraft operated by 336 Squadron of the Royal Netherlands Air Force are an important component of the defence force which comes under the command of Flag Officer Netherlands Antilles, Commodore Paul van Oppen, who is responsible to Admiral J. H. B. Hulshof, Senior Flag Officer of the Royal Netherlands Navy.

The 336 is unique, certainly within the Netherlands services,

for it is an air force squadron which includes navy officers and men. Its aircraft too are exceptional for the F27 Maritime, now used in the defence services of five nations, is developed for its special role from the twinturboprop F27 Friendship airliner of which more than 700 have been sold worldwide.

Squadron headquarters at Hato adjoins Dr Albert Plesman airport, a 20 minute drive north from Curaçao's main town of Willemstad. The runways used by civil airliners are beside the sea. A chart on the operations room wall reveals the immensity of the job undertaken by the F27 Maritimes as watchdogs over 500,000 square miles of sea.

It shows the strategic position of Curaçao which with Aruba and Bonaire situated on either side form the Leeward Islands only a few dozen miles off the northern coast of Venezuela.

Far to the north west are

The emergency call that alerted the 336 Squadron duty officer was an appeal for help on behalf of doctors concerned for the life of a baby boy.

The newly born child was on St. Maarten, a two hour flight away. They urged the importance of getting him into hospital on Curaçao for treatment of a respiratory problem, and stressed that any delay waiting for a scheduled airliner flight would further hazard the child.

The 336 duty crew climbed aboard

their F27 Maritime and headed for Juliana airport, St. Maarten. Five hours later the 840 nm roundtrip was completed and the baby, attended on the flight by two doctors, was being rushed by waiting ambulance to the 800-bed Elisabeth Hospital, Willemstad.

Another mission of mercy was over. In the pages of 336 log was noted another successful sortie which would soon be "lost" among the many as "just another statistic.

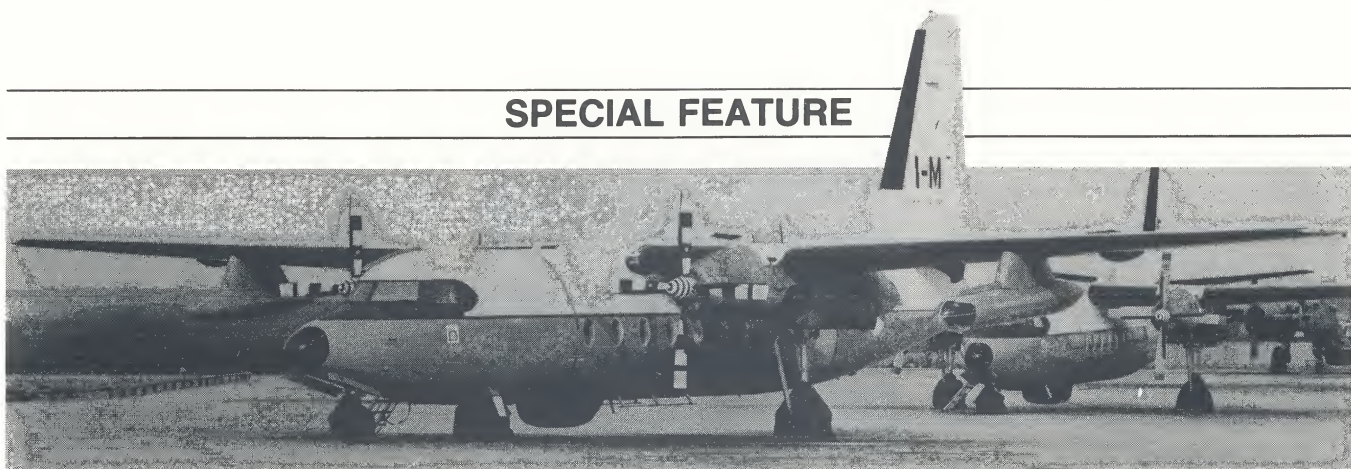
Yet the event illustrates much more than

336 efficiency or the value of the planemaker's art. It shows that among many peoples exists a sense of human compassion which has no boundaries.

This example had its beginning much earlier . . .

Dr. Valentijn Vermeulen of Elisabeth Hospital was travelling from Curaçao to Amsterdam. Another passenger aboard the DC-10 airliner was Alphona Mulders, a Netherlands businessman living in the 700-year-old village

THE AN EXTRAOR ON A SPECI



F 27 DINARY PLANE AL MISSION

St. Maarten, St. Eustatius and the smallest of them Saba, forming part of the archipelago which is the Windward Islands.

From Curaçao the largest of the Netherlands islands to the furthest point St. Maarten is 420 nm, a direct flight in the F27 Maritime of two hours.

Surveillance is the word with which 336 commander Major Frits Rijnders summed up the primary task which the squadron took over 12 months ago from the navy which was operating Neptune aircraft, now retired because of their expense, the problem of spares and the difficulty of getting suitable fuel.

The 336 had been in abeyance since the '60s and in manning it, Maj. Rijnders drew on personnel already expert on the F27 which operates with 334 transport squadron in the Netherlands. The air force supplied the pilots and most of the flight engineers, while navigators and radar

operators were navy. The electrical shop personnel, except for a local civilian, were also navy and air force and navy combined to form the engineering workshop.

The navy maintains on station a 30 knot Leander-type frigate of the Van Speijk (2,255 tonne) class armed with Harpoon missiles and Seacat, which is replaced every six or so months by a similar vessel from Europe.

Additionally there is a unit of the Royal Netherlands Marine Corps under the command of Col. Henk C. de Roode, formerly commanding officer in the Netherlands of the No. 1 Amphibious Combat Group which under the Nato command structure came under Major General Jeremy Moore. Col. de Roode is deputy commander of the Netherlands Antilles forces. His marines include a proportion of locally recruited personnel serving for one year.

Combined exercises are conducted with the French who garrison Guadeloupe and Martinique. Part of St. Maarten is also French.

Close ties exist with the United States who exchange personnel and there are courtesy visits to

mainland countries including Venezuela and Colombia, and among island tours there has been a visit to the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago.

The F27 Maritime is able to assist the navy with detecting targets beyond the horizon, and also gives support to the land forces. It has the capability of carrying and if necessary dropping supplies, and transporting 30 marines. Troops can also be parachuted.

Inextricable from surveillance is the task of search and rescue, and in this 336 acts as a coordination centre for a flight information area covering more than 100,00 square miles of sea in a block running along the coastline of Colombia and Venezuela and stretching northwards to Haiti, The Dominican Republic and Puerto Rico.

Throughout 24 hours, 336 is available at an hour's notice to answer any emergency call, and the operations room log testifies to an average of some ten emergencies a month for which 336 is "scrambled".

Often calls involve vessels whose case histories have already

of Hazerwoude-Dorp in the province of South Holland.

The doctor had with him an incubator containing a baby he was taking to Holland for an operation in Amsterdam. Mulders was concerned to hear that the incubator, bought with a gift of cash raised by Lions Club of Curaçao, was the only one and that its use on the mission left none in reserve.

Six months later, Elisabeth Hospital had its second incubator, bought with monies raised in the Netherlands by

Rotary Club of Zoetemeer Zegwaagt, of which Mulders is treasurer.

It was the one which the F27 Maritime took on its journey to St. Maarten.

"We have a special adaptor so it plugs into a socket in the aircraft's galley" said Sgt. Jaap van der Swet, flight engineer on the St. Maarten trip. Van der Swet, aged 41 and navy man for 23 years, has two children of his own.

Vermeulen, aged 44, also a family man with three children, went originally to Elisabeth Hospital on a four-year- con-

tract. That was ten years ago. The new-baby unit he helped to establish now handles 2,000 cases a year, and provides valuable training for a regular supply of medical students from Groningen University.

His father-in-law Joseph Grosfeld, now in his 82nd year, was engineer aboard KLM's famous Fokker F.XIII airliner *Pelikaan* which in December 1933 completed a celebrated record trip Amsterdam to Java and back carrying mails.

been under scrutiny for some time before 336 is called to search. In other instances they are emergencies which are instinctively recognized as possibly being bogus, and bear the hallmark of smugglers whose May Day call gives false name and position to draw the authorities' gaze from a miscreant's true location.

It will often mean Saturdays and Sundays with crews on stand-by at base while intelligence officer Capt. John Busker or his colleagues monitor reports, cross-check ship sailings and confer with Miami Coast Guard before committing an aircraft to a search.

But the true emergency when it does occur commands in the men of 336 a full commitment to their calling.

Such was the case when on a peaceably normal day, the motor vessel Aryuma set out from Curaçao to travel the comparatively short distance of 50 miles westwards to Aruba. It was the young captain's first command, and all seemed well as the 50 tonne freighter cast off.

Alarm was raised the following day. The vessel, a converted landing craft, was overdue with seven people on board. The father of the captain reported that he had watched from the west point of Curaçao as the vessel faded from sight, and that it appeared on a too-northerly heading which it failed to correct.

Now parents and children of the missing gathered tearfully at the squadron headquarters. An F27 Maritime made repeated sorties in the area where the freighter was expected to be, recognizing that the captain must have made corrections when he realized an error.

On the second day of searching without success the aircraft crew played a hunch that the ship's captain had not made a correction. The aircraft turned out of the search area. Suddenly the faintest possible signal was heard and pinpointed.

The Aryuma came into view, dis-

abled in worsening weather conditions 200 miles north of Aruba and with the passengers frightened and out of food and fuel. Shipping in the area was alerted and directed to the spot. Stores were transferred. With the passengers including women visibly in a state of panic at facing another night at sea, the F27 Maritime refueled and returned to circle overhead until dawn.

A citizen's rescue organization CITRO now went into action with its boat. Tow lines parted, but two days later the Aryuma gained the safety of harbour.

It was discovered that the freighter had a compass error of 30 degrees. The captain did not make a correction. The squadron undertook seven sorties and its total flying time exceeded 47 hours.

The radome under the fuselage of the F27 Maritime and its underwing fuel pods give it away that here is something different from a normal F27 airliner. Unlike its "civil sister" making short-haul hops, the F27 Maritime is capable of a duration of 11 hours. Carrying 16,500 lb of fuel it is able to fly 2,700 nm (5,000 km) and have five per cent fuel reserve and 5 minutes holding, being 15 per cent better in fuel consumption or range than its nearest competitor.

Generally the squadron operates up to the normal all up weight of 45,000 lb but has found that the overload weight of 47,500 lb presents no difficulties operating from sea level runways at 30°C.

The crew comprises captain and co-pilot, flight engineer, the navigator who is tactical coordinator (TACCO), radar operator plus observers of which 336 likes to carry four on a search and rescue mission and for this uses personnel from the workshops.

At the front of the cabin a seeming surfeit of space has given scope for what men on long patrols can miss - relaxing VIP quality seats with a fold-down table and room even for a bunk. Where crews need to double-up and take turns in observing, complete rest between duties is

assured.

Amidships and running fore and aft along the right side of the cabin there are the tactical mission consoles where the TACCO and radar operator sit beside each other. Two observer seats are placed on opposite sides so that each is beside a rear window which bubbles out to provide maximum visibility. The care given to the design of these seats is itself an example of good human engineering.

In the centre of the floor is a chute for launching flares and markers and the rear door which is on the left side can be opened for air dispatch of dinghies, life support equipment and parachutists.

Vast though the surveillance area is, the days of gnawing fatigue and uncertainty are over for operators of the F27 Maritime. The "magic eye" of the radar maps the ground below and the weather ahead. Its 360° sweep can be effective up to 250 nm radius or can be focussed to concentrate on just a 3 nm radius.

Whereas not many years ago maintaining a continuously strictly accurate course was a problem, adoption by Fokker of the best in radio and the latest in miniaturized computerized equipment makes it child's play for the F27 Maritime to follow automatically the most intricate search patterns.

An inertial navigation system working together with an autopilot a radio altimeter can maintain the aircraft stable and precisely on course down to a height of 150 ft above the water.

The TACCO might decide the search necessitates flying a ladder pattern, expanding square or "sector pattern" which is like tracing the outlines of a flower's petals, each time through the centre of the bloom.

The TACCO decides on the type of pattern and the height to fly, depending on the size of the target, its likely speed, the sea and weather conditions and the effective range of the radar or human sight.

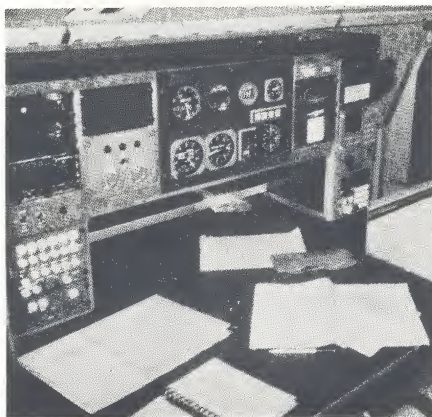
A visual search from 1,000

ft. would be necessary if an object as small as a life raft was sought in Sea State 3 (white caps just appearing on the waves) and the effective visibility was down to 2 nm. Selecting a ladder pattern with track spacing 4 nm could cover some 1,680 nm² during three hours searching at 140 kt ground speed or 1,800 nm² at 150 kt.

A typical radar search might be for a trawler which would present a 150 m² target. Given Sea State 3 — 4 and a sure radar detection range of 30 — 35 nm, it would be possible using a 60 nm track spacing and operating at 1,000 ft. to cover in three hours some 27,000 nm² at 150 kt ground speed or 28,800 nm² at 160 kt.

If breaking the sequence of the search pattern is necessary to make investigations, the aircraft can rely on data in the computer so that it can immediately return to where it left off and resume the original search process.

If a faintest squeak of a distress frequency signal is detected the automatic direction finding equipment gives its location. After that the F27 Maritime flies its search pattern accurately to



Tactical coordinator.

0.5 nm an hour. As a back-up to the inertial navigation system, the F27 Maritime also has its long-range navigation system using an established world-wide network of radio beacons enabling it to know where it is.

The excellence of the electronics does not minimize the necessity for exceptional vigilance by the crew and it is because the human eye gets tired quickly that the squadron likes to carry a maximum of observers so that they can change over every 15 or 20 minutes.

A searchlight fitted on the right

wing tank has proved to be exceptionally effective in identifying night targets since being fitted as standard equipment and used for the first time by 336.

The policing role associated with surveillance and the necessity of accurately recording violations of fishing zones, oil pollution and the like, has made the observer windows particularly valuable for use of hand-held cameras.

Apart from the searchlight, another first for 336 aircraft is a track plotter on a table between the TACCO and radar operator. A pen traces on a map the flight path as the operation proceeds, making it immediately available for the debriefing and the log.

Twelve months of F27 operations in the Caribbean sees 336 in good heart. Crews reported satisfaction with the F27 Maritime's handling qualities and a high morale among the servicemen's families who are stationed there for three years.

Maj. Rijnders spoke for everyone when he added: "I could do now with a third aircraft". ■

This article was originally published in the FOKKER Magazine.



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The Industry that sells security



A. E. Kibbelaar.

Official studies speak of *'the other police'*, *'the private police'* or *'the security selling industry'*. The organizations themselves prefer the concept *'security service'*. What's in a name. Fact is that also in Curaçao the uniformed guard in and near banks, offices, shops and industrial plants has become a common sight. Within a few years at least 4 organizations guaranteeing security to whoever wishes to employ their services have been established. A development which does raise some questions, notably about safety in general on Curaçao, the legality of private security services and the quality of service rendered. A. R. talked about this relatively new phenomenon in the Antilles with Mr. A. E. Kibbelaar, former lieutenant governor of Curaçao and presently managing-director of Securicor, a daughter company of the well-known British security service organization.

The rapid growth of private security organizations might suggest that Curaçao's society is plagued with a proportional rise in crime. But that is not so, at least not in a general sense. On the whole the island is still a very safe place to live in.

Terrorism, so pronouncedly present in most western societies, is unknown here. The Antilles may still form a part of the Kingdom of The Netherlands, the picture of hundreds of youngsters tearing up pavements, smashing windows and barricading streets, which has made the name of Amsterdam symbolic for violent protest, does not in the least fit Willemstad. Nor has there been any occurrence of that other dreaded type of terrorism, the political one. Even when hundreds of Jews descended on Curaçao earlier this year to celebrate the 250th anniversary of the oldest synagogue, not one single incident reeking of terrorism took place. Mr. Kibbelaar's organization, contracted during the days of the festival, never needed to take action.

Theft

In contrast to most cities in the Caribbean and beyond, one can still

safely stroll the streets of Curaçao by day and night. That is within the limits of the normal. Politicians do not need nor do they employ body guards. It often surprises visitors to the island to see a prime-minister do his own shopping with no official(guard) in sight.

Exceptions, serious and sad as they are, aside it cannot be said that Curaçao is a violent society. But it certainly is no paradise either. Burglaries and theft have recently taken on alarming proportions. Iron-barred windows are by now a common sight rather than the exception. Cynical as it may sound this development must be rated quite natural. From the outside Curaçao seems a flourishing island. It does indeed have one of the highest standards of living in the Caribbean. But it also has an appalling high rate of unemployment. For many young people there is no hope of finding work. Family life moreover has gradually been disintegrating and as a result moral and religious values have eroded. Respect for one's neighbour's property is one of them. Some recent cases of burglary resulting in murder do indicate the possibility of Curaçao turning into a violent society, if no thorough meas-

ures are taken.

Against that background the rise of security services may be seen as a welcome development. No answer to the root of the problem, their presence has at least a preventive function. Says Mr. Kibbelaar: "our organizations help to keep up Curaçao's good reputation and in a modest way contribute to battling the unemployment problem".

Room

The industry selling security, though still young on the island, is by no means a new phenomenon. As early as 1850 Allan Pinkerton established his private security firm in Chicago. Today that organization alone employs more than 50,000 persons all over the world. The rise and growth of that particular firm may be seen as symbolic for similar organizations. In most western countries the industry by now outnumbers the regular police force by far. A development which indicates a changing pattern both with regard to the police task and society in general.

Concepts concerning the function of the police force change as society changes. Only twenty-two years ago the Dutch police force having been dressed up in a more friendly uniform could still be given a seven-century old device (Louis IX of France) "Vigilant ut Quiescant" as a guiding principle. Today the idea that the police 'stands guard so that the others may feel secure' seems outmoded. On the one hand there is a tendency towards centralization and specialization amongst most police forces. As a result the relation to the public has become far less personal. In this respect it is significant that the officer trodding his beat by foot has more or less disappeared. ■

(In Stockholm that work is today better paid than patrolling by car!)

On the other hand there are those who propagate a more human-relations oriented police task. Officers of the peace rather than guardians of public order. Like Fouchet once wrote: "La nature fait des jacobins et la police fait des citoyens".

In either case plenty of room is left for privately organized security forces. And anyhow almost nowhere can the local police cope with the demand for protection of property around the clock.

Seen against this background there is therefore no immediate cause for alarm when witnessing the rise of security organizations in Curaçao's society.

Legality

Slightly disturbing, however, is the non-existence of legal provisions regulating the security industry. Mr. Kibbelaar points out that a proposal of that nature has been pending for years. Action both by the government and parliament should not be postponed much longer.

In practice there is as yet little to worry about. Permits to carry firearms are granted only after due consideration and within the framework of strict regulations. Employees of security service organizations have to hand in their weapons after working hours.

The relatively small size of the island's society moreover promotes close cooperation with the regular police force. But to ward off the possibility of unhealthy developments proper legal regulations should be enacted as soon as possible both for the sake of the public and the bonafide organizations.

Service

Discussing the field operation of his and similar security service organizations, Mr. Kibbelaar stresses first of all the requirement of a highly professional approach. Selection and training of personnel rate high on his list of priorities. Candidates for the service are screened with great care and are after an initial tough period of training put

through refreshment courses regularly.

Amateurism could with a view to the highly responsible work prove disastrous, he says. Having dealt with security matters during most of his distinguished career, Mr. Kibbelaar knows what he is talking about.

The services rendered on the island correspond with the earlier mentioned types of crime. Cash carrying, wage packeting, providing internal security guards, mobile security patrols, all backed up by a highly sophisticated electronic communications system are the most commonly provided services. The quality of such services naturally differs per organization. Mr. Kibbelaar is careful not to pass judgement on his competitors but is willing to state his satisfaction about having linked up with a renowned international firm. It assures the client of the very best. Quotes the trim, military postured Kibbelaar from a Securicor's publication: it all adds up to one rather old-fashioned word: service. ■

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Security Services

A few alarming aspects

by Wim Luiten



Private security services are a rapidly growing phenomenon in modern society. Banks, businesses and other institutions are forming their own security services or are employing the services of enterprises active in this field. Private citizens who feel insecure can make use of security services operating all over the island. This development has now already reached the stage where in certain neighbourhoods security is being taken care of almost entirely by private security organisations. The time when public order and security were maintained by the government is past and it looks like it will not be coming back for the time being.

Licence

It is forbidden by law to establish organisations having as objective carrying out tasks pertaining to the field of police work, in particular maintaining security and public peace and order. Therefore a security service may only be established after obtaining a licence granted by the government. Conditions may be set for the granting of these licences, enabling the government to exercise some control on matters like selection of personnel, the use of force, weapons and such. In this way too great a proliferation and excesses may be prevented. Yet this development is cause for concern.

Political control

During the past few years a process has been going on of giving up spe-

cific government tasks. Because of bad management and political opportunism the civil servant body has quantitatively become inflated, whereas qualitatively it has been hollowed out. In order to limit the consequences of this wrong as much as possible the easiest solution has been grasped. Many services were converted into limited liability companies functioning quite autonomously. The appearance of private security services fits completely in this trend, even though it cannot be considered a conscious policy. Tasks formerly carried out by the government are now being taken care of by private enterprises.

Potentially this development poses great danger. A process of breakdown of the state is becoming apparent. The process of government services going private has as a result that the possibility for democratic control is being eliminated. When it is a question of producing drinking water or the construction of homes one may be able to live with it, but when the process extends itself to police tasks the situation becomes alarming. A fundamental characteristic of a state is that it has the monopoly of the use of force. If this monopoly is handed over to others, the substance of our system is endangered. When the government permits citizens to use force against each other, this will open the doors to degradation into a situation that has made certain Latin American countries notorious.

He who thinks that this is just theory is quite mistaken. It is already a well-known fact that security in the residential area of Shell

employees, Julianadorp, could only be attained by engaging private security services. The thing that is alarming about this development is that nowadays security apparently has to be bought and consequently can only be obtained if one has sufficient means. It is therefore not surprising that especially many of Shell's employees protested against this. But most serious of all is that through the activities of these private security services the pressure on the police to function adequately diminishes, decreasing the chance to put a stop to this development.

Police

The conclusion drawn from the above naturally can be nothing else but that it's necessary to ensure that the police can carry out its tasks in an adequate manner. This is certainly not so at the moment. The material and personnel at their disposal are not sufficient for the work that has increased considerably. Furthermore the police will have to change its policy. The police has retreated into large offices and cars in which they drive through the residential areas instead of walking through them. The preventive element of patrolling has all but disappeared with as a result that they are now driving behind the problems. In this respect they might do well in taking some lessons from the private security services. ■

translated from Dutch.

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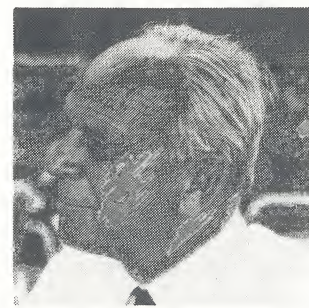


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The Code of Medical Ethics II

Nine recommendations



J. Haring

Widespread ignorance about the content and application procedures of the Antillean Code of Medical Ethics, often leading to the unfounded accusation that an impartial judgement of suspected medical malpractice is not to be expected under the circumstances, prompted AR to invite Mr. J. Haring to supply our readers with the basic data and a critique at the same time. In his first article (AR vol. 2 no. 5) Mr. Haring, who has been added to the Department of Public Health as a legal adviser for the period of two years in the framework of the Dutch programme for technical assistance to the Netherlands Antilles, dealt with the motive underlying the existing legislation, the criteria of the code, measures of punishment and the procedure for filing a complaint. Besides providing additional information Mr. Haring this time adds nine recommendations, which may contribute to a most necessary updating of existing legislation in this respect.

Tribunals

The decision concerning a filed complaint in first instance is entrusted to the ethics committee domiciled in Curaçao. Against a sentence of this body an appeal can be lodged at the Court of Justice also with venue in Curaçao. The ethics committee takes its decisions in the following compositions:

- if the accused is a physician the court consists of a president-jurist and two physicians.
- if the accused is a dentist one of the physicians is replaced by a dentist.
- likewise, if the accused is a midwife or a pharmaceutical chemist, one of the physicians is replaced by a person of the corresponding profession.

The president and the members of the committee are appointed by the Governor of the Netherlands Antilles. Appointments are for a period of six years and can be renewed immediately. Also the secretary of the committee is appointed by the Governor, but the law does not dictate that he should be of the legal profession, which according to the writer of this article must be considered an omission.

Legal proceedings

The law of procedure and the further

execution of the Central Government Ordinance (1957, no. 39), as referred to in sections 16 and 19, are regulated by the Central Government Decree containing general measures, dated June 14th, 1958, no. 88.

The course of proceedings is described summarily in the following outline:

- The plaint has to be submitted in duplicate to the secretary of the committee. Both the plaint and the copy thereof must be signed and dated.

N.B. The secretariat of the committee has its office at Wilhelminaplein 4, Curaçao (the Town Hall).

- The president carries out a preliminary investigation assisted by the secretary, who draws up a proces-verbal of the occurrences; in order to do so the president may hear both the plaintiff and the defendant as witnesses and consult experts or request information in writing.

- If the plaint has been lodged by a person not authorised to do so, a person indirectly involved, the committee has to declare itself not authorised to proceed without any further investigation.

- If the plaint is unfounded or of an insignificant nature, the committee can reject it without further in-

vestigation.

- The defendant may be assisted during the pre-investigation or at the sitting by one or more advisers.

N.B. The Central Government Decree does not stipulate anything with regard to the plaintiff, but in practice the plaintiff is allowed juridical assistance.

- With the exception of the cases mentioned under the third and fourth dashes the case is referred to the court, but first a copy of the plaint is sent to the defendant. He will be given the opportunity to be heard by the president or to provide him with information in writing.

- The plaintiff and the defendant are convoked for the sitting of the court and they are informed of the names of the persons the committee consists of and are entitled to inspect the documents.

N.B. In principle the defendant is free to appear or not to appear. However, the Committee can order him to appear, if the general interest requires disposal of the cause (section 14 of the Central Government Ordinance).

- The procedures at the sitting of the court do not deviate from the normal picture. Both plaintiff and defendant are heard in each other's presence. Witnesses and experts may be called by the president, the plaintiff or by the defendant. Of everything dealt with at the sitting a proces-verbal is drawn up.

The committee may stipulate for reasons of general interest that the sitting is to be public.

- Unless a supplementary investigation is required, the Committee will resolve the case within three weeks after the sitting and the ruling will be forthwith communicated to the defendant and to the Director of the Department of Public Health.

- For reasons of general interest the Committee can decide that the

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ruling will be published, while the identity of the persons mentioned therein are omitted.

- An appeal may be lodged against a final ruling, among which the ruling that plaintiff is not entitled to sue, the rejection of the complaint without further investigation or the non-application after investigation, by submitting a notice of appeal to the clerk of the Court of Justice in Willemstad. The notice must be sent within thirty days after the date of the ruling.

Application of disciplinary measures for that matter does not exclude the civil or penal law for the same fact.

A disciplinary ruling against a doctor and others against whom a complaint has been lodged may be reason for the plaintiff to institute civil procedures in the expectancy that the Civil Judge will also rule in the same manner. Also an accompanying criminal procedure is possible.

Incapacitation and addiction

Article 5 of the Central Government Ordinance stipulates that suspension and disqualification measures may be taken with regard to the physician and others, who must be held to be incapacitated from carrying out his practice on account of a mental or physical disorder or through old age or physical infirmities.

Subsequently article 5 stipulates that the measure of disqualification is applied with regard to physicians and others, who have formed the habit of excessive drinking or addiction to opiates or misuse of those pharmaceutical products that may cause psychic changes. The ethics committee may make the provision that the disqualification will not become effective, provided the person concerned submits himself to a disintoxication treatment not exceeding two years and six months, and provided he does not make use of his competency during that period. The provision regulating the disintoxication treatment may, if necessary, state that the person concerned must be interned in an appropriate institution. The length of this treatment is set at two years. The Director of Public Health is charged with controlling whether the provisions are complied with. For both cases the normal course of proceed-

ings is applicable, so that in principle each party directly concerned may submit a complaint to the Committee. In practice most of the time it will be the Director of Public Health who will take this heavy task upon himself. The criticism that is generally voiced is that the Committee gives the professional against whom the complaint is lodged too much protection, so that the plaintiff's interests are not sufficiently taken into account, the latter often being the professional's patient.

As referred to above the Committee consists of one president-jurist and two physicians, one of which is substituted as soon as the plaintiff in question is lodged against a professional of another discipline. This professional who will be part of the Committee will have to pronounce a judgement on a colleague together with the other two members.

The criticism mostly concerns the allegation that the Committee by preference takes a mild position towards the defendant. I have no reason whatsoever to suppose or even to believe this. That the Committee nevertheless in a number of cases arrives at a judgement other than the plaintiff's can be ascribed to the fact that many plaintiffs, due to subjective considerations, maintain other norms for the way the profession is to be exercised than is acceptable in all fairness. Neither does the regular judge always pronounce the judgement expected by the public.

Based on the above I consider this frequently voiced criticism incorrect and unfounded.

Recommendations

It is to be recommended that:

1. *the Code of Medical Ethics also be declared applicable to paramedical professions, but in that case these professions must first be regulated by law.*
2. *the evaluation concerning the question whether the defendant has been guilty of a breach of ethics may best be done by a Board consisting besides a president-jurist, of only colleagues belonging to the same discipline as the defendant.*
3. *as soon as a complaint is submitted to the Committee, the Director of Public Health also receives a copy thereof.*

4. *a complaint be dealt with within an acceptable period of time. In any case it is recommendable to notify the defendant promptly that a complaint has been submitted.*

5. *a decision of the Committee and the Court of Justice be pronounced publicly, unless it concerns a ruling in which it is declared without further investigation that plaintiff has no right of action or which declares that the complaint has been denied.*

Article 125 of the Civil Servant Administration of Justice Regulation 1951 will as a consequence also have to be applicable to the Code of Medical Ethics.

6. *all final rulings containing a disciplinary measure be published.*

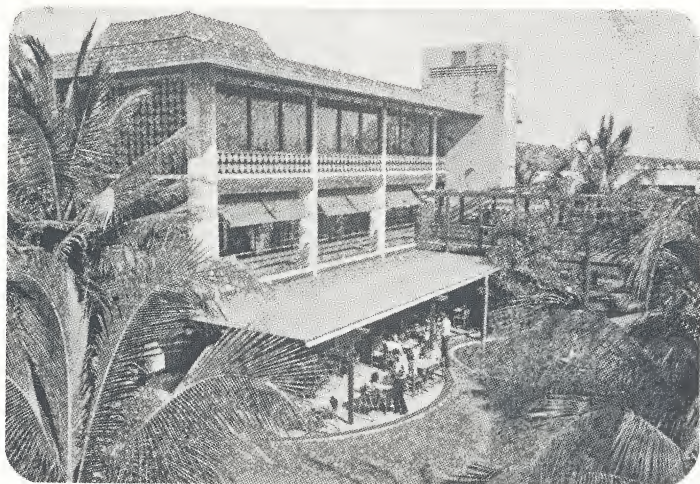
I consider the argument that a small scale community prohibits such publication without any grounds. The professional should have thought twice before committing malpractice.

7. *the director of Public Health has the right of appeal in all cases — therefore also in the cases in which he does not act as plaintiff.*

8. *the director of Public Health annually publishes a report stating among other things the number of cases submitted in the year concerned. Of the complaints submitted in that year a classification must be provided based on final rulings.*

9. *in order to eliminate unfamiliarity with the rules the Committee should hand out to each plaintiff and defendant a booklet in which their rights and obligations are stated.*

It should be clear that a number of the recommendations mentioned above will if accepted have as a consequence that the existing Central Government Ordinance concerning the Code of Medical Ethics will have to be amended or adapted. But such amendment or adaptation will, according to the writer, make the Code better suited to the current social concepts. Hopefully this article will be a stimulation toward starting a discussion on the subject. Certainly a most needed discussion!



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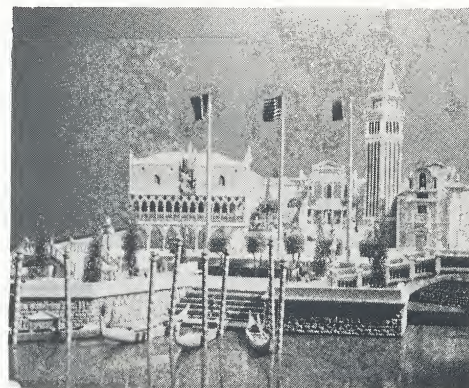
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Who needs anymore worldfairs



Suggestion for your next holidays?

A cluster of unique buildings has mushroomed close to well-known Disneyworld. One is shaped like a giant wheel, another looks like an enormous globe. Yet another one has a roofing consisting of 800,000 solar photovoltaic cells. Heavy machines have removed about 18 million cubic metres of earth to make room for an exposition covering an area of 220 hectares. Some 4,000 workers did all that was in their power to be ready on time (October 1st, 1982) with the realization of Disney's latest dream, in which up to now 800 million dollars have been invested.

And what a dream!

It all began with cartoons and the creation of characters like Mickey Mouse, Dumbo and Peter Pan. After that Walt E. Disney (WED) gathered around him artists, architects and engineers, formed an organization and called them together his "imagineers". So Disney-Land in California and Disney-World in Florida came into being.

The Disney-recipe

According to the Disney-recipe both parks had to center on amusement with only a limited accent on "instructiveness".

If this could be included in the package, fine! But it was, however, definitely not a priority. Those who have visited Disneyland or Disneyworld know that they were being taken care of by an organization functioning to perfection, where nothing is left to chance and where everybody leaves with the feeling of having gotten his money's worth.

Past and future

But WED was not yet satisfied. He thought that the technical ingenuities applied in his amusement parks should also be used to tell people more about their past and even better to let them see how things will be in the future. So EPCOT (experimental Prototype Community of Tomorrow) was born. A project started now, the end of which is by far not in sight and probably never will be. He who has never yet visited a worldfair (Brussels, Montreal, New York) and plans to visit EPCOT in the near future will wonder whether anymore (very expensive) worldfairs will ever be necessary again, now that Orlando is getting a permanent Expo. The past is there among other things in the form of a computer-driven brontosaurus with a height of 16 metres, and with a Michelangelo painting the Sistine Chapel. And if you want people to see what is inside Mother Earth that is often poured forth by volcanoes, the lava has to look like the real thing and you must also be able to smell the sulphur.

Realism

And that is exactly what happens, even though it took the chemists long hours of work to find a mixture beginning with "Jell'O" and ending in "Orange Go". A substance that blazes just like lava, but does not burn anyone's fingers if touched. There is a China pavilion where the moviemakers, who also filmed "Circle-vision", show really incredible scenes of the route followed by Marco Polo. There is a German and

a French pavilion, complete with an Eiffel tower of 1/10 the actual height. England and Mexico are also represented with their own expositions. But it is multinationals like Exxon, Kraft, General Motors and American Express that want to show us the past and the present, as well as the kind of grandiose possibilities the future still has in store for us.

Survival

Disney himself shows this in "Spaceship Earth" with as basis theme 'people can survive through communication with other people'. One "travels" by train through prehistoric times and arrives then via a "tunnel" in "space", where the earth is projected on a 50 metre screen as the people will see it in the near future from the space-shuttle Columbus, which is still being used for all kinds of experiments.

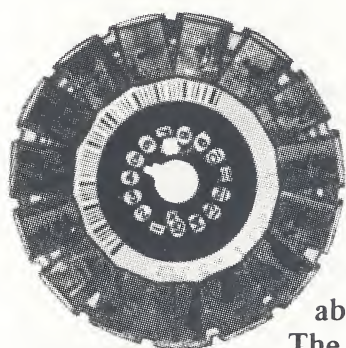
Mechanical lives?

People working in regular jobs as well as people who deal daily with "chips" and electronics will ask themselves the same question as the first Disneyworld visitor did. Are we still living ourselves or are we living mechanically??

And will probably go on with their business as usual and have a big hamburger. But realizing maybe that this is also a product of the present consumption society based on speed, they will also probably hurry back to their "funchi cu pisca" and "boerenkool met worst".

But EPCOT will keep intriguing them as something that is far away and yet nearby. ■

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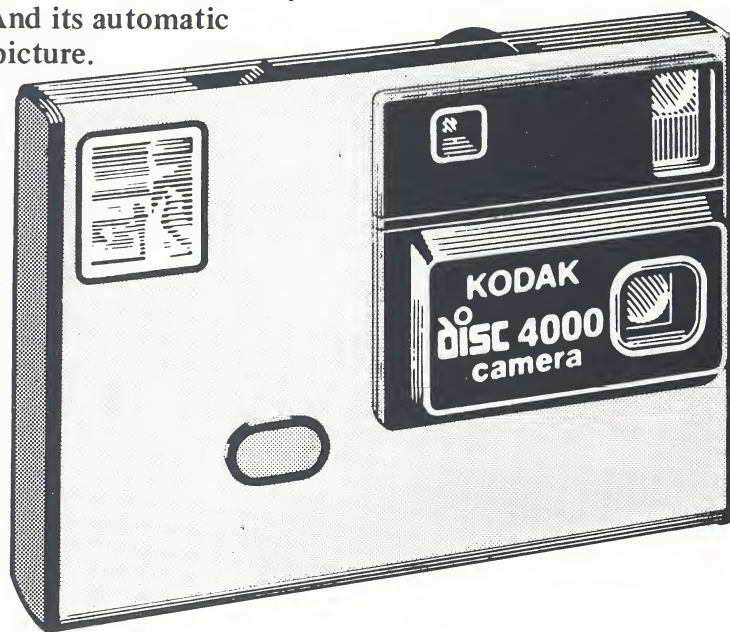
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PEOPLE



Planning the official opening of the new premises of FATUM, a subdivision of Holland's largest insurance company NATIONALE NEDERLANDEN, the directors *H. Hammege*, *C. J. Hilgersum* and *E. C. F. Butot* are seen seated (l. to r.) in their brand new office on Curaçao. NATIONALE NEDERLANDEN is a group, which operates internationally through offices, subsidiaries and affiliated companies in 23 different countries. Total premium income in 1982 is expected to surpass the Dfl. 10 Billion! FATUM, which employs close to 200 people, enjoys a major share of the Antillean insurance market. The new building was officially opened on November 5 by the prime-minister of the Netherlands Antilles Mr. D. F. Martina. Also present was Mr. E. K. den Bakker, chairman of the Executive Board of Nationale Nederlanden, who declared that prospects for the group look good.

"Artists are vital to the life of any society. Without them the people perish" *Hildo Isenia*, better known as ANESI, speaks from a deep inner conviction. All his life Anesi (54) regarded his artistic gifts as a vocation rather than a means for personal satisfaction. A self-made man both with regard to his career in the civil service as to his artistic achievements, Anesi after retirement settled in the USA to study the arts and painting techniques.

Within two years he held three successful exhibitions of his works and received a university award for an essay titled "manifestation through art". Mr. Isena, who now lives in Fort Worth, Texas, recently visited his native Curaçao for a brief vacation.



"One's got to adopt a positive approach. Yes, we have some measure of confidence in the future of the Antilles" declares *Charles M. Mabon* (49), general manager of Barclays Bank of the Netherlands Antilles. Mabon, who has been with Barclays Antillean subsidiary since last January, underlines his bank's careful optimism with the announcement of the planned construction of a 4 million building on Curaçao. The only bank with offices on all six islands, Barclays employs 110 people. Says Mabon: "Our policy is to employ Antilleans whenever possible, but unfortunately there is a lack of middle management on the Antilles. "Having served Barclays 22 years in Africa (4 countries) and 5 years in New York, Mr. Mabon who is originally from Scotland enjoys living in Curaçao. In particular as he envisages a time of expansion for his bank's activities, which obviously accords with his dynamic personality. ■



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Dutch aid more development oriented

The Netherlands rank high on the list of nations sharing some of their wealth with the developing world. Holland is known for its spontaneous generosity when need arises elsewhere and many of its sons serve in leading positions on international development bodies. The "development issue" is a much discussed topic in schools, churches and the media. True to their calvinistic background the Dutch have a keen eye for the underlying principles.

With regard to the Netherlands Antilles, however, it has more than once been observed that the aid given in the past often missed its mark. Instead of promoting a process toward more self-dependence, the Dutch assistance appeared to cause the opposite. The Antilles came to lean very heavily on The Hague in particular with regard to budgetary deficits. A state of affairs not exactly conducive to efficient government. By the mid-seventies the country seemed to have slid into a mood of inertia. Since then a change for the better has set in. A much more sensible policy with regard to aid has been adopted. A number of factors account for this change of orientation.

Watershed

Awareness that something was fundamentally wrong dawned when it became known that hundreds of millions set aside by the Dutch government for the Antilles had remained unused. The amount, which had accumulated over several years, became known as the "watershed".

Unused indeed, as funds were only transferred to the Antilles on request, i.e. after a project had been submitted and approved. On the one hand too few projects were forwarded and on the other hand of those entered and approved too many were never executed. This extraordinary development led to a profound discussion on the topic of aid both in The Hague and Willemstad.

Set-back

Hardly had the tale of the unspent millions spread or it became known that the Antilles were now heavily overdrawing their yearly

credit in The Hague. During the late seventies and early eighties a number of very costly long-term projects were undertaken, amongst which container harbours for Aruba and Curaçao, and a housing project on the latter mentioned island. Projects totalling NAf 205.1 million. In 1980 the "watershed" was eaten into for NAf 55.7 million.

Also during 1980 and 1981 the dollar to which the Antillean guilder is tied began to rise. As a result the amount voted by Dutch parliament for assisting the Antilles, which naturally is quoted in Dutch guilders, was no longer sufficient for the purposes envisaged. During 1982 an average of 30% extra had to be spent on the projects approved when the budget was drawn up. The only positive side of this monetary development was the diminishing of the Antillean debt to Holland (also quoted in Dutch guilders) from NAf 587 million to NAf 445 million.



Dutch representative, Mr. A. J. v. Hesteren.

New phase

On the first of January 1981 the so-called interim phase for development assistance (1977-1981) had come to an end. New arrangements therefore were due. At that date the Dutch had committed themselves to the financing of projects for a total of NAf 273 million, while on June 1st of that year a request for another NAf 141 million was being considered.

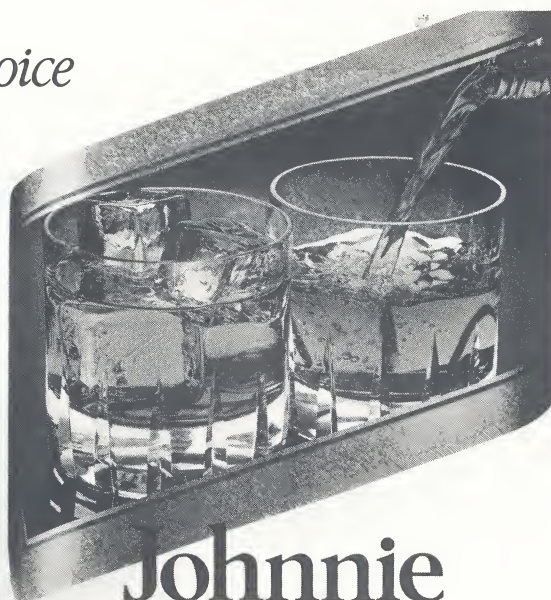
The Dutch decided to put a ceiling to the amount yearly to be made available. This was set at Dfl. 120 million. With a view to the expected level of expenditure this was raised for 1982 to Dfl. 138.5 million.

By the end of 1979 only Dfl. 131.8 million out of the watershed containing Dfl. 337.2 million had been earmarked. It was next decided to allocate the remaining Dfl. 205.4 million to the period 1980-1985 in the following manner:

1980: 20 m.; 1981: 30 m.; 1982: 40 m.; 1983: 53.4 m.; 1984: 44.1 m.; 1985: 17.9 m.

With the afore mentioned longterm projects underway this leaves both Aruba and Curaçao little room for new projects during the period 1982-1984. Of the NAf 148.8 million available to Curaçao in those three years, no less than NAf 142 million has already been earmarked. For Aruba the figures read 45 out of 60 million Antillean guilders.

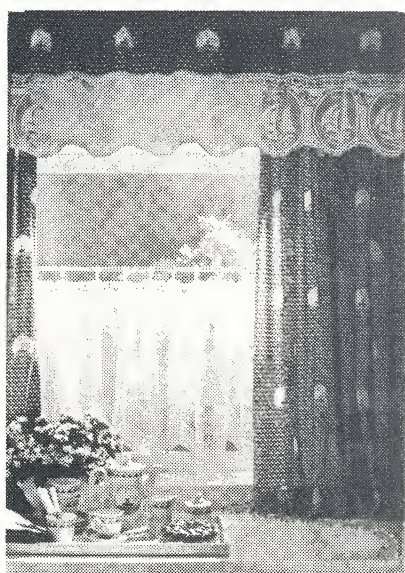
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With a view to the yearly available amounts the Dutch decided not to approve any more new projects and asked the Antilles first to draw up priority lists per island.

This decision was not very well received in the Antilles. It was felt that the socio-economic development of the islands was forced into a financial straight jacket. Subsequent negotiations did result in some extra spending room for 1982. Holland, moreover, appeared willing to allocate additional amounts notably for the construction of houses for low income groups. But the general principle of a ceiling to development aid yearly to be made available remained in force.

Planning

Both this principle and the new approach of demanding long term programmes rather than accepting ad random requests for individual projects, should be regarded positively. Instead of curtailing the socio-economic development of the Antilles, these measures promote planning.

It should be observed that while the above described change of orientation was taking place, another rather important development within the Antilles occurred. Spurred on by Aruba's desire for more if not complete independence a process of decentralizing government services was set into motion. The idea was also applied to the structure of funneling development money. This implies a much larger responsibility for the respective island governments and the need for more direct communication between the Dutch and the individual island territories. Taking into account that the ceiling of the Dutch aid will be gradually lowered in the coming years, the Antilles are thus forced to take great care in determining their priorities in order to arrive at as much self dependence as possible. ■

CEDE ANTIYAS: new chances for initiative

The office is modest both in size and equipment. One senses a high degree of efficiency. As its befits a development organization.

Leafing through the files of Cede-Antiyas a remarkable story unfolds. Only seven years ago it was written about the Antilles that "there exists an almost complete lack of initiative". Now, five years after the birth of this Antillean development body literally hundreds of projects aimed at upgrading the quality of community life testify to quite a different mood. In that process of change Cede-Antiyas played a stimulating and mediating role.

During the early seventies private initiative with regard to socio-educational and socio-economic activity was at a very low ebb indeed. The Antillean society experienced a period of crisis caused by the breaking up of the old, in essence still colonial structures. The upheavals of the 30th of May, 1969 foreshadowed a period marked by paralyzing frustrations. Procedures, moreover, to obtain financial assistance in the above mentioned field were so complicated and time-absorbing that the few enterprising spirits left soon gave up in despair. By 1976 it became obvious that something had to be done. Mr. P. van Zeil, a member of the Dutch parliament and well acquainted with the Antilles, pressed Mr. J. J. A. M. van Gennip, director of a large Dutch development organization (Cebemo), to visit the islands and see what help could be offered. The almost immediate result of his visit was the establishment of an Antillean Development organization aimed at stimulating and advising local initiatives and speeding up financial assistance procedures. The Dutch government regarded the experiment favourably and agreed to allow the new organization a fair measure of financial leeway. Small scale community projects costing no more than NAf 33,000.— could now be handled by Cede-Antiyas without having to obtain The Hague's approval in advance. Procedures for the financing of projects up to NAf 100,000.—, if taken care of by

Cede-Antiyas, were also simplified. These facilities, the back-up of van Gennip's organization and last but not least the appointment of Mr. P. T. M. Sprockel, a former director of the Department of Education with an intimate knowledge of all six island societies, as managing-director account for the ensuing success.

During the period '78-'80 numerous meetings were organized on all six islands bringing together representatives of welfare and community organizations. Information about possible assistance both financially and otherwise was passed on. As a result many new initiatives were born. Cede-Antiyas, trying to keep its own organization as cost effective as possible, mediated between the local project developers and the Funding agency of the Dutch government by taking charge of the necessary paperwork. But maybe even more important, Mr. Sprockel and his small staff were constantly on the road advising and encouraging the organizations and individuals which had approached them.

Thus was the change of mood that by 1981 a conference could be held attended by 228 persons representing 66 organizations active in community work. The conference set the agenda for the coming years putting great stress on training of personnel and co-operation between the respective organizations on each island. During the present year two courses for volunteer community workers were started and the foundations laid for the intended federations of welfare organizations.

The field of operations of Cede-Antiyas in the meantime was enlarged. Several non-governmental funding agencies in the Netherlands asked Cede-Antiyas to act as their representative on the Antilles, thereby increasing its possibilities to promote community work in the many forms existing today in the Netherlands Antilles. ■

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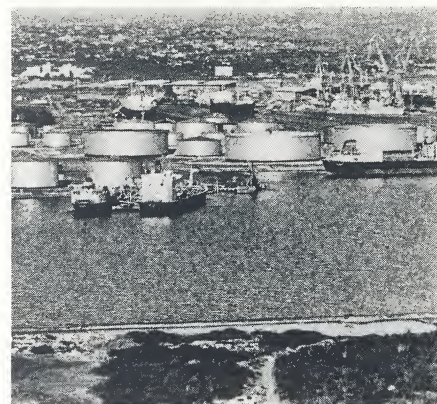
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Dutch Research Bureau pinpoints Neth. Antilles as major laundering centre for South Africa's oil

A misleading report



The Netherlands Antilles is now a major trans-shipment port for laundering oil supplies for embargoed South Africa. This is likely to be increasingly embarrassing not only for the islands' government, but also for The Hague.

Thus reads the opening sentence of an article published in the Latin America Regional Reports Caribbean RC, July 16, 1982. The implied accusation must be labelled both unfair and off the mark.

The article derives its information from the latest report of the Amsterdam-based Shipping Research Bureau, which claims that five of the 52 tankers most likely to have delivered oil to South Africa during 1980 and the first half of 1982 sailed from the Antilles. It also suspects that the Antilles accounted for six of a further 29 'possible' shipments to South Africa.

The Shipping Research Bureau is a Dutch non-profit organisation which was set up two years ago to conduct research, and to publish reports, on how South Africa is able, despite the oil embargo, to obtain its oil imports. The prime purpose of the Bureau's work is to assist the many governments and national and international organisations which are seeking to render the oil embargo against South Africa more effective by analysing publicly available data on shipping movements, and by interviewing and corresponding with oil and shipping industry personnel.

The afore mentioned article calls to mind that the Dutch government introduced an oil embargo against South Africa last Feb-

ruary. "But", it continues, "this measure was not extended to the Netherlands Antilles, although The Hague maintains control over the islands' foreign relations. This means that there is still no restriction on the export of oil from the Antilles to South Africa".

Apart from the fact that The Hague is in no position to extend its measure to the Antilles, which is after all an autonomous member of the Kingdom, the conclusion that the Antilles "has therefore become a major laundering centre for South Africa's oil" seems a trifle exaggerated. The relatively small number of ships, which the Bureau's report mentions, have only 'most likely' and 'probably' transported oil to a South African harbour. And even if some ships sailed from the Antilles for this purpose — a fact which few doubt — it requires some mind boggling logic to depict the Antilles as a major culprit, even if only by implication.

The argument the report forwards, reads as follows: "All OPEC members and virtually all other oil-exporting countries embargo South Africa. There is therefore very little 'non-embargoed' oil available on the international market. It is clear that most of the oil supplied from the three trans-shipment terminals in Curaçao (Shell), Aruba (Exxon) and Bonaire (Northville Indus-

tries/Paktank) originates from countries which officially embargo South Africa.

The cost of transporting oil is now reasonably small compared with the cost of the oil itself. But there would normally be little point in sending oil for South Africa via a trans-shipment terminal unless it is embargoed oil". The Shipping Research Bureau report therefore concludes that when supplies are sent from the Antilles, "it would seem very likely in most cases that the oil was originally produced in a country that embargoes South Africa".

Indeed most of the 1m barrels a day of oil trans-shipped in the Antilles originates from oil producing countries which have an embargo against South Africa: the Arabian Gulf countries, Nigeria, Venezuela and Mexico. Shell Curaçao, which owns the world's largest trans-shipment terminal, told the Research Bureau that it does not itself sell embargoed oil to South Africa. But, according to the Bureau, most of the oil handled in Curaçao is owned by other companies, and Shell refuses to say whether its assurance covers supplies belonging to non-shell firms.

A misleading remark, as the terminals are not in the business of transportation. They own no ships and on the whole have no knowledge of the eventual destination of the oil taken in at their plants. As Mr. Theo Thijssen, director of Bonaire's terminal, points out: The only party

SHIPPING

which is in a position to demand information about the destination is the country from which the oil originates.

Pointing an accusing finger at the Antillean government is for the same reason besides the point. The Latin America Regional Reports states correctly that the government in Willemstad has become increasingly embarrassed to be seen as a laundering point for South Africa's secret oil trade. But when it says that "the territory remains very dependent on the three oil terminals, which provide a substantial part of total tax receipts and are important employers" and that "therefore the local government is reluctant to interfere with the 'free trade' of the oil terminals" it is right off the track. A nasty and unfair insinuation, because the government of the Antilles owns no ships and has no means of assuring that oil from the Antilles based terminals does not reach South Africa.

Not only is this kind of reasoning self-defeating, it also has the undesirable effect of creating false images thereby fostering a climate of polarization rather than serving the humanitarian cause. ■

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by Alice van Romondt.

Ko-afingita; no. 1,2 and 3 (1982)

A recently started magazine in papiamentu for amateur guitar players.

"Was ist Papiamentu?"; Buchhandel und Verlage in der Niederländische Antillen.

Article published in the German magazine Borschenblatt no. 26, March 26, 1982.

Available at the Public Library of Aruba, Department of Documentation.

Amor, Amor

A collection of poems in papiamentu of well-known Antillean poets: Pierre Lauffer, Ellis Juliana, Nydia Ecury, Lupe Reyes, Hubert Booi and others.

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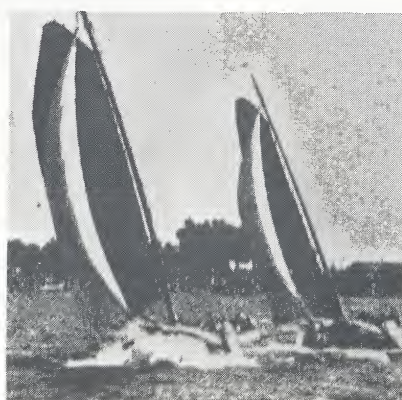
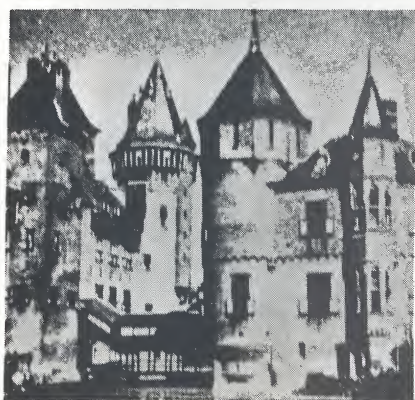
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